

Labor—1924.

Agents and Agencies.

## ARKANSAN FINED \$1,000 AS ENTICER OF LABOR

W. Lee Townley, Joiner, Tried  
at Leland, Miss.

LELAND, Miss., Oct. 29.—W. Lee Townley, who is a manager for the Deeming Investment Company of Joiner, Ark., a company with large planting interests in and around Joiner, Ark., was tried, convicted and fined \$1,000 and costs in the local courts for the charge of enticing labor out of the state.

It was charged that he came back here, his old home, where he is well known, as he was once a manager on a plantation near Leland, and bought tickets for several negroes to his new home in Arkansas. Most of the negroes got off the train at Shaw, Miss., though they had been provided with tickets to Memphis and on into Arkansas by Mr. Townley, according to the allegations. He was arrested and put under bond, charged with the violation of the new and strenuous law recently enacted in Mississippi which forbids under threats of heavy penalty the enticing of labor from this state, unless the agent has first registered and paid a prohibitive license to carry on such a business.

Mr. Townley left town but was brought back to Mississippi by his bondsmen and spent two days in jail until yesterday, when he was tried before Judge W. H. Grimes and prosecuted by County Prosecuting Attorney William Ray Toombs of Greenville.

After being convicted and fined \$1,000 and costs on the charge of enticing labor from the state the court dismissed the six other charges against Mr. Townley which grew out of the same circumstances.

Arkansas.

Labor—1924.

Agents and Agencies.

## LABOR AGENT LAWS

### WILL BE ENFORCED

State Commissioner of Commerce and Labor Hal M. Stanley Saturday declared that he would strictly enforce the law passed at the last session of the legislature requiring labor immigrant agents in the state to furnish bond for the debts of those whom they carry from the state. The bond is in addition to the \$1,000 bond now required for faithful observance of the state laws and also the \$1,000 tax assessed each agent, it was said.

After a consultation with Attorney General Napier, Commissioner Stanley said that a bond of \$1,000 would be required for each 10 persons carried from the state and that the bonds would be issued in units of \$1,000 only.

Doubt was expressed that insurance companies would look favorably upon such a policy. At the present rate the bond averages \$100 for each person carried out of the state, it was stated. This was declared to be of too great a risk for insurance companies, as the average man's debts will amount to more than \$100.

#### To Enforce Law.

It is the opinion of the commissioner that enforcement of the law will keep immigrant labor agents out of the state. He said that while it was not his aim to deliberately keep such agents from operating here it was his duty to carry out such laws.

The commissioner pointed out that at present there are two agents operating in Georgia, one in Savannah and one in Atlanta. A third agent came to the state a short time ago and made application for a license, but upon hearing of this new law, withdrew his application.

"The two immigrant agents now located in the state seem to be well established and have requested the forms on which to make the new bond," the commissioner said. "The real effect remains to be seen when the insurance companies express their stand on it and state the premium on the bond," he said.

Georgia.

Labor—1924.

## Agents and Agencies. PLANTERS WANT NEGROES

Labor Agencies of Memphis and Chicago Will Be Invoked.

CLARKSDALE, Miss., Feb. 16.—A number of representative planters of this county met here Saturday afternoon at 2 o'clock at a meeting of Commerce ways and means and adopted measures towards securing the return to the delta of some of those negroes who have during the past two or three years flocked to the northern and western industrial centers being drawn there by the promise of princely wages made by unscrupulous labor agents. It is probable that immediate negotiations will be opened with the I. C. Railroad Co., with a view to secure rates for returning negroes and the planters through their representatives will get in touch with labor agencies of Memphis and Chicago. It has even been suggested as a possibility that a representative will be sent to Chicago.

Mississippi.



Labor—1924.  
Condition of

Durham N.C.  
Herald

AUG 5 1924

## MILLS CLOSED BY LACK OF NEGROES

Cannot Be Run By White  
People and Negroes Re-  
fuse to Work.

Fayetteville, N. C., Aug. 4.—While the Hawthorne Mills which have been operating in this city for the past 35 years, were closed down on March 15 last on account of market conditions at that time, they are now remaining closed on the account of the lack of negro labor, according to Charles W. Weiss, general manager. The mill's full running force is 600 workers.

The company is said to be fully solvent, owning its lands and properties, all clear, and seventy houses which the former employees are still occupying and working in this city at other pursuits. The plant is also said to be fully equipped.

Mr. Weiss stated that the mills would not be reopened by the same company. He asserted that it was almost impossible to get labor to come here and after labor was procured for the mill, that the workers would not stay. He added that it was all "piffle" about the reported return of negroes from the north.

The labor shortage first started during the world war, the manager asserted, and since that time he says that neither high wages nor short hours can keep the negroes. He expressed the opinion that the mill in its present operating plans, could not be run by white employees.

North Carolina

Labor—1924.

Condition of.

Macon, Ga. TELEGRAPH

OCT 16 1924

## PEONAGE TRIAL

### SET FOR TODAY

Forest L. Dyal Is Accused of Hold-  
ing Negro Illegally

### LONG VERDICT IS SEALED

The Forest L. Dyal peonage case was not reached in Federal Court yesterday, but will be called the first thing this morning, when court opens at 9:30 o'clock. It was learned last night at the district attorney's office.

Forest L. Dyal and his father, bearing the same name, were indicted at the May term of court. Since then the father has died, according to Federal officers. The son denies he is guilty.

The Government charges that he held Charlie Jackson, a negro in peonage, and after Jackson went away and was being employed by U. G. B. Hogan at Dexter, Ga., he was returned to an alleged state of peonage, being carried back in chains.

The case is attracting considerable attention among lawyers and others. District Attorney F. G. Boatright will personally conduct the prosecution, it is believed, while Dyal will be represented by T. S. Felder.

There was little business in Federal Court yesterday. A jury took the case of John Long, a resident of "No Man's Land," who was accused of illicit manufacture of liquor and returned a sealed verdict, which will be presented to Judge Barrett this morning. The jury was out for an hour on this case. "No Man's Land" is in Twiggs County.

George F. Doles, Crawford County, who was accused of making liquor, denied the charge strenuously. The jury believed him and brought in a verdict of not guilty.

Allen Peacock, negro bell hop at a local hotel, pleaded guilty to selling whisky and was fined \$50.

## PEONAGE TRIAL STOPS AT DEATH OF WOMAN

Macon, Ga., October 17.—(Special) Examination of witnesses in the case of Forrest L. Dyal, Jr., on trial in United States district court on a charge of peonage, was called off this morning when Thomas S. Felder, attorney for the defense, was notified of the death of his sister, Mrs. Julia Everett, in Montgomery, Ala.

Dyal is accused of having held Charlie Jackson, negro, in a state of peonage.

The case will be resumed Monday.

Peonage.

Labor—1924

## Demand for NEGROES ADVISED AGAINST SEEKING WHEAT FIELD WORK

Annual Bulletin Shows Demand for  
Labor in West

Annual bulletin in which notification of the pressing labor demand in wheat fields of the Pacific Northwest was received by Postmaster Roy A. Lindsey Tuesday morning. The harvesting season will be formally opened by June 12 and will continue through the middle of August.

Information relative to location of wheat fields may be obtained from postmasters or from the federal state employment office for southeastern states maintained at Little Rock. Wheat field workers must pay their own transportation to and from the scene of their labors, according to the bulletin. Negroes are advised not to go to the fields with expectation of obtaining employment unless advance arrangements are made.

Ar. Kansas.



Labor - 1924.

California.

Demand for  
**EXCLUSION ACT  
BRINGS DEMAND  
FOR BLACK AMER-  
ICANS.**

**CALIFORNIA'S AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES SUFFERING FROM SCARCITY OF FARM LABOR.**

By Geo. Perry.

Los Angeles, Calif. Nov.—(Pacific Coast News Bureau.) For the first time in the history of the South-west, the black American has become a factor in the future development of its wonderful agricultural possibilities. Exclusion of the Japanese, Chinese and Hindu farm labor through the enforcement of the anti-alien land law; and the increase of cotton production in California, are the factors responsible for the present scarcity of experienced farm labor.

With a total acreage of 445,000 acres with a predicted yield of 256,932 bales the 1924 cotton crop will yield approximately \$40,000,000 to the farmers of Southern California, Lower California, and the Salt River Valley in Arizona. Through arrangement the aliens will be permitted to harvest the 1924 crop yield; but thousands have left, and have at this early date caused such a serious shortage of efficient farm help that distress calls are heard in many sections. In the Yuman Valley district below Needles with cotton averaging a bale an acre, 3,000 cotton pickers are needed. In the San Joaquin Valley district north of the Negro town of Allensworth, with 4,000 cotton pickers employed at \$1.50 per 100 more are needed.

In fact so serious is the outlook for 1925 that definite steps have been recently taken by several communities and concerns to colonize certain sections, particularly in the cotton districts, with experienced Negro farmers from the South. One concern is opening 2,000 acres for Negro colonization in the Palo Verde

valley; a promising locality near the Colorado River, with a cotton production of 13,500 bales valued at \$2,295,000. Another concern has a project near Victorville, while others are planning similar methods of insuring the California cotton industry of a plentiful future supply of efficient farm labor.

In order to supervise the colonization of the Negro in the various projects the California Colored Realty and Development Assn. (Inc.) a Negro Real Estate men's organization, was recently formed in Los Angeles for the purpose of co-operating with the land owners, farm organizations and realty boards in systematic campaign of activity, publicity and supervision with the object of interesting and locating reliable, efficient and industrious Negro farmers of the South in the approved colonization projects under way in Southern California.



Labor - 1924  
Demand for.

Mississippi.

FEB 19 1924

# PLANTERS WANT NEGROES

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CLARKSDALE, Miss., Feb. 18.—A number of representative planters of this county met here this afternoon at 2 o'clock at the Chamber of Commerce to discuss ways and means and adopt measures towards securing the return to the delta of some of those negroes who have during the past two or three years flocked to the northern and eastern industrial centers, being drawn there by the promise of princely salaries made by unscrupulous labor agents. It is probable that immediate negotiations will be opened with the I. C. Railroad Co., with a view to secure rates for returning negroes and the planters through their representatives will get in touch with labor agencies of Memphis and Chicago. It has even been suggested as a possibility that a representative will be sent to Chicago.

## LABORERS LYNCHED

### LABORERS WANTED

The Southern Alluvial Land Association is on a still hunt for labor to cultivate the thousands of acres of untended and untenanted lands in the delta of the Mississippi, according to W. R. Satterfield of the Chicago Mill and Lumber Co. He says there are thousands upon thousands of acres of the world's richest farm land in that section that is not now producing. Some of it is cut-over timber lands awaiting the pioneer farmer, while much more of it is idle because there is no labor to continue to cultivate it.

And Mr. Satterfield's statement may be verified any day by observing the travelling through that section as they look out of the windows of railway coaches or speed through touring automobiles over the good roads being constructed like net-work through out the South. So desperate is the situation as to pat the leading southerners have taken up the matter with the Secretary of Labor and even with the Bureau of Immigration looking toward inducing "just a few" of the very highest, conservative, energetic, thrifty type of Northern European farmers to come over and occupy and till the soil.

Which experiment will, of course, not working successfully. There is not enough hope of re-

ward in what southern farming has to offer the newcomer to induce immigrants of the "very highest, conservative, energetic, thrifty type," i. e., Englishmen and Europeans of Nordic blood to leave the dear Old Homeland for lands they know not of. Too much is involved by way of home ties, historic experiences, personal pride and patriotism. It is typical, antebellum southern pride, a relic of the old plantation owning aristocracy that is always looking about to find someone as good as they are to do the work they themselves should be doing.

This aristocratic land gentry would not be driven to this desperation of trying to decoy Europe's best laborers to these shores to do the bidding of America's southern land aristocracy if they had been wise enough and sufficiently humane to exhibit even merciful regard for the dependent Negro laborer upon the strength of which hitherto the bulk of their proud fortunes have been being built up during the past three centuries of our National life.

Contrary to fact, the South has boasted of being the Negro's best friend. Instinctively the Negro was aware of the ambiguity and falsity of that claim. If he had experienced this friendship as a fact, the hundreds of thousands who voluntarily left the farms and cities of the South and the thousands who are yet planning to go would never have been moved to do so. Friendship is of such a nature as to beget confidence and trust. Southern Negroes are further from exercising trust in the southern civilization today than ever they were. They are becoming generally conscious of the repulsive to Negroes and are taking the only step to take, namely to move out to other sections. If the cruel southerners can get immigrants from Europe or elsewhere, let them do it. As for us, this land is broad, and under more favorable skies beyond Mason and Dixon's line on the north and the meandering Mississippi on the west, we will cast our lot to farm or do any thing else which the hand of man finds to do.

It is not a lease from labor, that we are making. As long as disfranchisement and peonage hold

sway in the South, the Negro must go where these are not practised against him.

As long as public sentiment and public officials of southern communities segregate us in separate, unprotected, unsanitary sections of little southern towns in order to facilitate lawless raids upon us violating and shooting through locked doors molesting and murdering our women as was done recently in the little prejudice-ridden town of Griffin, Georgia, when an innocent old mother of the race was murdered, we will keep up the migration to other climes. We will migrate at any cost.

Lynchings have not ceased in the South and will not cease until the Federal Government passes and enforces a Federal Anti-Lynching law. Unless and until that is done, we will urge our defenceless people to go where they have the protection of legal processes against lynching, besides being secure in an environment where self-defense is possible.

The other day in Mississippi, a Negro youth, was summarily lynched because "It was alleged that he had some knowledge of a recent attack on a white woman in the vicinity." WITHOUT TRIAL; WITHOUT PROOF. Poor Negro youth! The South hates Negro youths so much that if there is one of them in a given southern community whom the community dislikes, it easily, speedily and with impunity accomplishes the unfortunate youth's undoing. Yet this is the South where a few years ago we were told to "let down our buckets." And the Southerners "are our best friends."

In Mississippi, where the last lynching took place (unless, as is likely, another takes place before this article reaches its readers), just a few months ago, at his inaugural ceremonies Governor Whitfield said:

"The Negroes make slightly more than one-half of Mississippi's population. Any plans which leaves them out is doomed to failure. If we would work out economic salvation, we must take their well-being into consideration. "If we hold these laborers in the South we must compete with the Northern employer. We must improve working and living conditions, look after the Negro's health, foster manual training and modern agricultural methods, and see that at all times the less

fraud." And yet they tell us to be contented here in the South!

Let the Southern Alluvial Land Association set in operation whatever machinery they can to induce foreign labor to the rich delta lands of the South, it will prove abortive. And if it should succeed, the Negro does not care. He is unmoved in his purpose to leave this lynching land for other sections that are not so loud in their professions of friendship but are notably fair in their practice of justice to all without regard to condition or color.

Contemplate the situation in a state more than half of whose population is Negro, with not only not a single Negro in official governmental position in the state but with no voice of that race able to speak for itself and even the voice of the state's Chief Executive unable to check the tide of murder and rapine enacted by the minority against the robbed, exploited, and enslaved majority. In a certain notable Mississippi convention years ago a leading politician of that state laid down as a future public policy, in dealing with her Negro population, that the Negro must be subjected to rulership by "force or

It is encouraging to learn of a fifty per cent decrease in the number of lynchings in the past twelve months. While mob violence is limited to any section, its presence anywhere is a blot upon our national life. I recognize the equality of every man before the bar of justice. I call upon all law enforcing officials to use every means within their power to prevent lynching."

Mississippi is heedless, its masses enthralled by traditional race prejudice, are unable



Labor - 1924  
Demand for.

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to rise to the moral sublimity and dignity of the Governor's message. Contemplate the situation in a state more than half of whose population is Negro, with not only not a single Negro in official governmental position in the state but with no voice of that race able to speak for itself and even the voice of the state's Chief Executive unable to check the tide of murder and rapine enacted by the minority against the robbed, exploited, and enslaved majority. In a certain notable Mississippi convention years ago a leading politician of that state laid down as a future public policy, in dealing with her Negro population, that the Negro must be subjected to rulership by "force or

avored shall get a square deal in business relations and in the courts. Our interest prompts it; humanitarian considerations demand it; our Christian duty enjoins this upon us.

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Labor — 1924.

North Carolina.

**Demand for.  
Southern Factory Closes:  
Can't Get Colored Workers**

Associated Negro Press.

FAYETTEVILLE, N. C., Aug. 13.—  
Because they cannot be operated as  
now organized with white labor and  
because of the absence of Negro  
workers, due to migration North, the  
Hawthorne Silk Mills, run here for  
the last 35 years, have been forced  
to close down. It normal times the  
mills employed 600 Negro workers.  
Since the war they have had to im-  
port workers from other towns and  
states, but have now found it so diffi-  
cult to do so that it felt necessary to  
close down to avert bankruptcy. Of-  
ficials of the firm declare that talk  
about the Negroes returning after a  
while is all "piffle."

St. Louis  
Argue  
8-15-24



Labor—1924.

Demand for.

Work for the Unemployed.

Delta planters have notified Capt. W. F. Widgery of the Salvation Army that they can place 150 white families and 300 negro families. They are needed on Arkansas and Mississippi plantations during spring planting time.

Notice of the planters was attracted by a story in The Commercial Appeal last Monday dealing with unemployment conditions in this city. Capt. Widgery estimates that there are 6,000 jobless men and women in Memphis. The charity organizations have their hands full in trying to provide the necessities of life for the destitute.

Failure of the cotton crop and the activity in construction work here have caused many farmers to pack up and remove to the city. The large majority of those making the change because of these conditions jumped from the frying pan into the fire.

The man unskilled in any work save that of the farm cannot hope to compete with skilled mechanics in the building trades. The high wages demanded by carpenters, plasterers, steel workers and other artisans are paid only to those who have served their apprenticeship and perfected themselves in their chosen line of work.

The unskilled man can secure work only at common labor, and rarely at this if a stranger, because the supply of such workmen is always in excess of the demand.

The influx of men who know nothing of industrial trades always adds to the burden of such institutions as the Salvation Army and the Associated Charities.

Speaking of the tide of transients this year, Capt. Widgery says too many of them are not willing "to be transients, but have come to Memphis with no promise of work, led on only by the hope that a job awaits them, and then have to turn to the relief agencies for aid. They hit here with no work in sight, get a furnished room, and then in a day or two, with all their money gone, they come to the Salvation Army for help."

We have been informed that the Associated Charities last year cared

for more than 400 non-resident families—that is, families who had resided here less than a year. Of course, the charities did the best it could for them, but undoubtedly the greater number of them would have fared much better if they had remained at home.

Those who know how to farm will make a mistake if they do not take advantage of the opportunity now offered them by the delta planters. Charitably inclined people lose sympathy for and will withdraw their support from able-bodied men and women who refuse work when it is offered them.

The Salvation Army and the Associated Charities are always glad to put an unfortunate on his feet, but neither institution has the time or the means to hold him up if he is able to stand. The man or woman who expects it is not deserving of aid.

The planters in need of labor offer to furnish transportation, provide homes and furnish seed for planting. The unemployed of this city who are qualified to do farm work should call on Capt. Widgery and arrange to take advantage of the opportunity offered.

Tennessee.



Labor - 1924.

Maryland.

## Discrimination COLOR LINE DISPUTE

### STARTS IN CITY HALL

Merit Board's Right To Compel Appointment Of Negro Is  
Challenged

George T. Ames, superintendent of Public Buildings, yesterday took steps to test the right of the City Service Commission to compel him to appoint a Negro janitor.

He named Andrew Dimler, 2105 Wilhelm street, as janitor of the City Service Building, 100 West Fayette street. The building recently was turned over to Mr. Ames by the Board of Estimates.

When Mr. Ames asked for a list of eligibles from which to select a janitor the commission sent in the name of Harry Harden, a Negro. Harden is in the employ of the commission as janitor and messenger at \$65 a month. He was given the place last spring, after having passed a fitness test.

#### Refused To Appoint Him

Mr. Ames refused to appoint Harden. Letters passed between the commission and Mr. Ames. Finally Mr. Ames went to Mayor Jackson.

The Mayor, it is said, advised him not to make the appointment. Later the Mayor called up the commission and a list of white eligibles was sent Mr. Ames. Dimler headed the list.

Yesterday Mr. Dimler's name was sent to the commission. Mr. Dimler was notified by Mr. Ames to report for work at the Service Building tomorrow.

## BLACK FOREIGNER HAS JOB HERE

Turned Down At First When  
It Was Thought He Was  
A U. S. Negro.

A large corporation here sent to a similar corporation in New York some time ago and asked an expert in a certain line be recommended for employment here.

You may imagine the surprise of the superintendent of the plant when a dark man walked in and laid down his credentials.

"You are a N—— and this is a white man's job," said the superintendent.

"Pay my expenses back to New York," demanded the colored man.

"Say, you dont talk like a N——; where were you born?" queried the superintendent.

"In Panama, sir, and educated in Jamaica and in England."

"Oh, you ain't a N—— and I am going to hire you."

This foreign born colored man is getting over \$2,000 a year in a job that would be denied an American Negro.



Labor—1924.

Discrimination.

LONG ISLAND CITY, N. Y. STAR

MARCH 7, 1924

## 30 NEGROES LOSE BLISSVILLE JOBS; HOUSING CAUSE

Probe Started by Legion  
Reveals Conditions  
in Plant.

As a result of an investigation by officials of municipal and state departments in a Blissville factory yesterday, thirty negroes will be discharged because there are not housing facilities in the plant to accommodate them.

The investigation followed complaints registered through Past Commander Charles F. O'Keefe of Blissville Post, American Legion, that negroes have been crowded into inadequate living quarters and employed at low rate of wages at the peak of the manufacturing season.

Mr. O'Keefe, with Charles W. Smith and W. H. Doegehan of the Industrial Commission, State Labor Department; Charles Bayles of the Queens Building Bureau, and George Riker of the City Department of Health, conducted the investigation.

The investigators say they found seventy-one negroes quartered in a building 81x25 feet. They declared that more than twenty-six men were in the building and ordered the company to give them better housing. They say they also found four negroes too many in another building and that they ordered them removed.

Because there are no facilities for continuing the employment of these men they will be discharged. According to law the factory officials must comply with such orders within forty-eight hours.

Besides these infractions there was little to complain of, Mr. O'Keefe told the Daily Star. There were some minor deficiencies which were noted by the investigators which factory officials, they said, assured them would be rectified.

It was said at the factory that the negroes were employed only during the "rush" season and that all would

be discharged as soon as this peak had been passed.

The peak extends over eight to ten weeks each year, it was said. The present peak will be passed within two weeks, factory officials said, and all the negroes will be discharged at that time.

The Government officials ordered that sleeping arrangements be made so that each man would be at least two feet away from his nearest neighbor. The men now sleep in pairs in berths arranged like a Pullman coach.

New York.



# Labor—1924. Domestic Service.

## Birmingham Servants Wanted In North.

"During the past few days we have received orders for servants from New York, Chicago, Detroit and Flint, Mich.," said Mrs. Gena Baer, co-manager of the Municipal Employment Bureau. "Saturday morning a woman came in and asked for a servant to accompany her back to New York, when she returns after a visit here. She said that she would take either a white servant or a negro, and wanted a woman to nurse and do general housework. The other orders from out of town we have had, have all been for negro servants. We have not filled any of them so far, but have filed them for reference if any applicant wants a place in the cities from which the orders came. The orders were for servants to do general housework. During the past two or three weeks things have been rather quiet, but I think that they will be much better as soon as we have a few days of pretty weather."

## NEGRO WOMEN LEAVING DOMESTIC SERVICE ALONE

### Poor Pay, Long Hours and Low Rating of the Service Given as Cause—The Situation as Shown in Baltimore

From the Baltimore Afro-American

Not only has there been a marked decrease of men and women in the ranks of domestic service, but a growing discontent expressed in increased labor turnover of those remaining, according to a government report based on an exhaustive study of the Baltimore Domestic Efficiency Association.

Figures given in this report show that there has been a decrease of 19.4 per cent in women cooks, 23.7 per cent decrease in general servants and a 48.8 per cent decrease in laborers.

In striking contrast there has been a corresponding increase in women barbers, hairdressers, manicurists, stewardesses and occupations which, according to this report, do not have the objectionable features of personal domestic employment."

While there has been a decrease of laundresses employed in private homes, there has been an increase of the same class of workers in the public places.

The Domestic Efficiency Association of Baltimore was organized in 1923 "for the purpose of trying to get at the high labor turnover among domestics and improve the standard of service,"

and maintained an employment agency as one of its main features. During the first two years of its existence 6,199 men and women applied to it for domestic work, of which 1,443 were placed.

This association has also rented a house for training workers, and expects to start this phase of its work as soon as the necessary funds are raised.

## Hours and Wages

Among some reasons for the low state of domestic service as a desirable vocation are the long hours and lack of standardized wages. The fact that there is no incentive arising from hope of increases due to efficiency is also given as a retarding force. The median wage paid here in Baltimore is \$10.70 for women in domestic service.

A study of the reports, however, show that wages are not the chief cause of complaint. When the fact that board and often lodging is included, the wages of this class of service corresponds and in many cases is higher than that paid in other pursuits.

Family relations were given as another reason for the constant decrease. Married women who do domestic service are kept for the most part away from their families. If they have small children, they in many cases must make arrangements for them elsewhere.

Notwithstanding this handicap, two-thirds of the women placed by the organization were either married or widowed and had family responsibilities in addition to their work.

Other factors included lack of opportunity for recreational activities at the place of employment and the consequent necessity to spend the nights away. This often proves a strain on the physical efficiency of the younger employees, whose natural desire for pleasure takes them out at night after working long and exacting hours in the day.

The whole background of stigmatized service must be changed, according to recommendations made.

This includes standardization of wages and hours in this as well as other lines of service.

Raising domestic service to the dignity in actual treatment of other professional service.

Facilities for training and efficiency.



# Labor—1924 Migration Movement.

JAN 8 1924

## Negroes Realizing South is Home.

Railroad men tell us of special trains from the North, loaded with returning negroes. They see beginning a "back-home" movement, and predict that the South will soon regain many of her black children.

The Sun has seen much good in the wholesale departure of the colored folks for the "land of promise." As long as the North is an asylum for dissatisfied negroes we will do our part to see the avenue is open, always, for North bound travel. Those who try the North, and decide to come home because of a conviction that the South is the best place. Those who dislike the South have our best wishes for health and happiness in other climes, and we consider our section no loser by their departure.

A colored woman, talking to the editor of the Sun, told of her experience "up North," where you were paid for what you performed, and charged for everything else. Her husband, now "up North" plans to get work in the South, believing he can save more. Her idea was that white people in the South would see that colored people were able to eat, giving food, if necessary, but in the North no interest was taken in them except whatever work they could do. If they were disabled or ill they were left on their own resources.

Another colored woman writes to local friends from her home in Oklahoma, advising them to tell the colored people that South Carolina is the best place for them. She wants them to stay where they are. Both of these women paid tribute to the better class of white people, saying that here "we have the blood," and they seemed to be proud of the fact, that they could conclude, that their white people, in Orangeburg, were better than those found in the North and West.

The Sun would call the attention of "the blood" wherever it may be to the belief among many colored people that they can look to the better class of whites for protection and eventual complete justice. In the time of slavery the old, loving and beloved servants looked with pride to their "master" for righteousness and even today, among many think-

ing colored people a somewhat similar and they look to the best of the white race for the justice to which they are entitled.—Orangeburg Sun.

## Negroes Returning South

Negroes are moving back from Chicago and other Western points to the central South in large numbers. A dispatch from Memphis reports that the Illinois Central is running a special train from Chicago to Mississippi carrying 247 negro families and R. J. Carmichael, Assistant General Passenger Agent of that road, stated that this is the first of a series of special trains which will bring many negroes from the West to the South.—The Manufacturing Record.

## NO RAINBOW'S END.

Once was Southern cotton fields were dotted here and there between the white rows with happy, contented colored people. Working hard, perhaps, were they, but full of joy and chanting their pleased plantation melodies because their own white folks were taking care of them. But the boll weevil came. Now, the boll weevil wrought no particular damage to the negro race in the South. The pest has proven a blight to Southern cotton farmers, yes, but they are seeking to combat the ravage and in some sections have done so. The negro need not have worried. However, it was not the ravage of the weevil that sent so many colored people North following its invasion, but the good, rather bad, propaganda it made for Northern labor interests. Labor was needed in the steel mills, the coal fields. The

labor was secured, but now—

Today practically every train journeying south has filled colored coaches. Filled with members of a race that sought the rainbow's end, but left what they were seeking in their search, and now dejected and friendless headed back where a citizen is a citizen and the government and society makes it so.

What there is to entice colored labor away from this state is hard to understand. In 1923, the year just passed, over three million dollars was spent in North Carolina on negro education. In 1900 far less was spent for the state's entire school system. Easily within our own mem-

ory less was spent for all the schools in the state than was spent last year for educating colored people. Since 1919, \$969,000 has been spent for new buildings at three of the state colored schools; \$125,000 more has been given by the general education board to equip these buildings; a million and one-half is being spent annually for school buildings for the colored, including sums from the Rosenwald fund; four teacher-training centers have been established in the state for colored teachers. And yet they go to the steel mills and coal fields of the North seeking the equality of their rainbow's end.

## BACK TO THE SOUTH

It seems to be definitely settled that the negroes who have been emigrating to the North during the past few years have again turned their steps southward.

It was both logical and inevitable that a large proportion of the negroes who left this section for the North and Middle West would return within a few years. The South is the natural home of the negro in this country. The climate, laws and customs of this section suit them. The negro came originally from a hot climate, and the extreme cold of the more northern section is no suited to him in any way. But a small proportion of negroes born and bred in the South can stand the extreme temperatures of the North and West.

It seems now but a question of ability to get back home, with the negro. The recent extreme temperatures in many of the Northern cities where the negroes have settled, has brought home to them the fact that they cannot exist there with any degree of comfort or happiness. Many of them will return—perhaps the larger proportion of those who left. A small proportion will become assimilated, and owning to extra good physiques will be able to withstand the extreme cold of the North. A few above the average in ability and intelligence will prosper, and most of those will stay. But the vast majority will, in our opinion, again seek the more equable climate of their former homes.

The News-Tribune did not view the exit of the negroes with any degree of alarm. We have always believed that the solution of the negro question from a political standpoint, was scattering them through the country. We have had no reason to change this opinion. But the rapid going away of large numbers of them has disorganized the labor situation in this section somewhat, and the return of a goodly portion of them will be welcomed in many sections, particularly by the farmers, who needed their labor.

Many of the negroes who went North lured by false and deceptive promises of conscienceless labor agents have suf-

fered, both through climatic conditions and because the profitable jobs promised them failed to materialize. They have been there long enough to fully recognize the falsity of the promises of labor agents, and they have found no land of milk and honey, with soft jobs laying around loose, and money growing on trees.

The negroes who went North—many of them have already awakened to the snare into which they were led—are making efforts to get back South. It is our belief that during the next few months thousands of them will return to the land of their birth and thousands more would come, if they could find the way.



JAN 27 1924

# Where Shall Jim Crow Live? Why Is Negro Moving North? Mr. Saunders Has Found Out

He Is a Southern Man and Has  
Sought Information of  
Negro Leaders

GREAT HUMAN STORY  
GIVES NEW ASPECTS

Points to Durham as Solution of  
Problem of Migration  
Prevention

By W. O. SAUNDERS

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Out of nearly twoscore years' association with the negro in the south, out of all my observations and study of the negro, I am compelled to believe that the solution of his problem in America rests largely with his own leaders. Given a free hand to work out his own destiny, I believe the negro is eager to establish his racial personality, to live by himself, to create an art, a literature, a music and a social life of his own independent of the white man, and forever respectfully recognize the barrier of color. If there is such a thing as a negro desire for social equality, I cannot find it.

The negro likes his kind and would feel no more at home among white folks than white folks would feel at home among negroes. An old-fashioned negro preacher put it to me this way:

"The last thing a nigger does want is social equality. Why, what would de white folks know what to do wif social equality if dey had it? White man just wouldn't know how to enjoy h'isself wif a nigger; he ka'n't sing like a nigger; he ka'n't dance like a nigger; he ka'n't laugh like a nigger; he ka'n't shout like a nigger; he ka'n't pray like a nigger, an' a nigger c'n git mo' muscle out'n a jew'sharp in a minit den a white man c'n git out'n a orchestra in a fortnight."

I addressed an inquiry to 300 negro school teachers asking them to tell me their wants. I supplied them with self-addressed envelopes and stipulated that no names should be signed to the communications addressed to me. I wanted them to feel free to tell me the truth. Not one expressed a desire for social equality. The sum of their wants was a desire for equal educational opportunities, justice before the law, fair wages, lights, water, sewerage, police and fire protection in their part of the town. One writer said, "No segregation laws would be necessary anywhere if colored people could rent decent homes with lights,

water, sewerage, and police protection in their section of the town the same as in the white residential section."

I have found proof of this in many southern towns and cities where the races have made happy adjustments and are living amicably side by side. The town of Durham, in my own state of North Carolina, is an example. There has been no migratory movement from Durham, and here is the reason, as given by C. C. Spaulding, president of the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance company. Mr. Spaulding is a negro, and his company is a negro company that has built up a great business, occupying its own seven-story modern office building in that city.

Killing "Colorphobia"

Mr. Spaulding sums up the four principal reasons why the spirit of migration has not touched the negro citizens of Durham, as follows:

"(1) Economic opportunities offered to a large enough percentage of the population to assure a decent livelihood.

"(2) Healthful and pleasant working conditions.

"(3) The spirit of co-operation created by negro enterprises, which has aided thousands to secure comfortable houses.

"(4) The general spirit of Durham is full of friendliness, as well as an earnest desire to make the negro population a part of its citizenry. The vote is never denied because of color. Splendid educational and social opportunities are provided for negroes. There has never been a lynching, and colored men are given an honest hearing in courts."

There is ample evidence in many other parts of these United States that the negro prefers segregation if not too severely discriminated against in the apportionment of educational and public-improvement funds. As far back as 1888 the legislature of Ohio admitted colored children to the white public schools of that state. But there are two schools in Cincinnati today in which the negroes have voluntarily segregated themselves.

The first of these schools, known as the Douglas school, was established about 15 years ago in a section of the city where many negroes had acquired homes of their own and built up a desirable negro suburb.

Within recent years a more considerable negro settlement has grown up in a congested tenement district embraced in the 17th and 18 wards. The negro population in this congested district is estimated at 17,000 to 18,000, badly housed, mostly in rented tenements. Miss Jennie Porter, an ambitious negro teacher in the Douglas school, conceived the idea of a segregated school for negroes in this district. She finally succeeded in persuading a friendly school board to

build such a school. It was estimated that an elementary school as a beginning would do well to start with an enrollment of 600 pupils. Plans were drawn for a school plant to accommodate 1,200 pupils, which it was believed would suffice for a number of years. The Harriet Beecher Stowe school, with Miss Porter as principal, opened about June 1 last year. It opened with an enrollment of 1,600 pupils, the platoon system being adopted to take care of the overflow of 400 pupils. Not one of these negro pupils is compelled to go to this segregated school.

Still, the school was not built without opposition. Representatives of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People came to Cincinnati and denounced Miss Porter for her work. Negroes were exhorted to resent this attempt at segregation in the north and to put their children in white schools. Before the Stowe school had been turned over by the contractors, black hoodlums, encouraged by anatical agitators, broke out every

window in the building. The windows were replaced and there have been no further demonstrations. Miss Porter was right: the negro, if left alone, prefers the company of his own.

I am told that this is but the beginning of segregated schools in Cincinnati; the negro is demanding schools of his own, not alone for the sake of segregation, but that he may have schools peculiarly suited to his needs. The education that serves a white child is not enough for a negro. The white inherits from birth what the negro by years of education and painful experience must acquire. Inheriting so much, there is omitted from the curriculum of a white man's school much that a negro needs to learn. One of these things is race pride; another is co-operativeness—to mention only two. Thoughtful negro leaders are deeply conscious of the limitations of their people. The negro has made little progress in literature, in the arts, and in the sciences. This fact sticks out like a sore thumb in the consciousness of leaders of the race, and is ably expressed by C. M. Battey, instructor in photography at Tuskegee institute, who is in truth an artist. Mr. Battey says:

"No race or group has handed down for limitless ages anything that is imperishable of itself until it has established its true individuality in its own arts. We are today immortalizing our folk songs, but they are not sufficient to lift us; we must develop in all other branches of the arts. When these other branches receive more liberal consideration and are brought to the classrooms from the kindergartens on up through the colleges, we are going to behold a vastly different type of negro American—a type that will be loved and not despised, and, too, it will toll the death knell to 'colorphobia.'"

Dr. Sutton E. Griggs, pastor of Tabernacle Baptist church, Memphis, Tenn., one of the most eloquent leaders of his race, says:

"The underlying traits of English character, the determining actions that seem to spring unfaillingly in times of great crises from the instincts of the people, are not gotten by mastering the textbooks in use in the schools. We may come into full knowledge of the last fact revealed by the sciences which they have developed, and yet may be far removed from the very first lesson that makes for racial success. What has a race gained if through as-

tronomy its members have learned how to measure the distance from the earth to the sun, but have not learned how to measure the distance between themselves, have not learned to eliminate those distances, have not learned how to prevent further useless estrangement and divisions? Why jubilate over a high mark made telling how the English people have cemented so large a part of the world into a tremendous federation if the student making the high mark is so lacking in the essentials of unity that he can never be a factor in a union of forces necessary to take care of the interests of his little neighborhood?"

The Town Without a White Man

And so at the bottom of much conflicting opinion we find the more intelligent and race-conscious negro having a clearly definite idea of his racial needs. We find too that he is assuming responsibility for the working out of his problem; he realizes that his uplift is his own and not a white man's problem, and that his work of individual uplift will not be completed until he has uplifted the humblest and most ignorant of his own group.

At Mound Bayou, Miss. negroes have founded a town of their own. There is not a white man in it. At Mound Bayou the negroes voted a bond issue of \$115,000 on themselves to build a consolidated rural high school. I went through that school, and was much impressed with the fact that of twelve classrooms, only five were allotted to academic work; seven were set aside for domestic science and industrial arts.

Citizens of Mound Bayou profess happiness in their self-imposed segregated life. The town of Mound Bayou was begun in 1888 by Isaiah T. Montgomery, who was formerly a slave in the family of Jefferson Davis. The railroad that had just penetrated the great Yazoo and Mississippi Delta sought his aid in peopling the millions of acres along its right of way.

After many careful surveys Mr. Montgomery chose Mound Bayou, and, in partnership with a cousin, Benjamin A. Green, bought 1,000 acres of land outright. The place was but a wilderness of big timber with a dense undergrowth of cane and briars, through which one had to hew every foot of his way with ax and scythe. In that wilderness Mound Bayou was established and has grown today into a town of 1,000 population, surrounded by 30,000 to 40,000 acres of farms owned by negroes or owned and operated by negroes. Mound Bayou farmers raised last year 8,000 bales of cotton under boll weevil conditions.

Mound Bayou looks just like many another southern town where the population is white and black. But in Mound Bayou one finds the railroad depot, the telegraph office, the telephone exchange, the post office, the drug store, the bank, the cottonseed-oil mill, the newspaper, the cotton gins, the saw mill, the electric shoe-repair shop, bottling works, smithy, woodworking shops, the hotel, the movies, and 15 stores—all run by negroes. I sought an interview with the mayor, Benjamin A. Green, and found him a young negro graduate of Harvard university. I asked to see the policemen of the town, and found there were two of them, and both of them in overalls at work on the streets. Here negroes, hewing for themselves, besides taxing themselves to build a \$115,000 school house, have built and

maintain more than six churches, costing nearly \$75,000. The first brick church built in Bolivar county, Mississippi, was built by the negro Baptists of Mound Bayou. Everything in Mound Bayou is of negro origin with the exception of its Carnegie library. The Carnegie library is the only gift from white men to the town of Mound Bayou.

The negro not only seems to know what he needs, but how to manage for himself.

Mound Bayou justifies the belief that the negro's strongest leaders will not depart from the south. Millions of their uncertain brethren may flee to a temporary economic betterment in the north, but the wise leaders will stand by the institutions they have built up in the south, and here in the south—in a climate more nearly suited to the physique and temperament of a tropical race—they will strive for the development of a true personality and the outfitting of greater leaders.

It would be a calamity for the black man indeed if, in the search for immediate gain, he should have lost sight of what he really wants.

The race or the individual that gets there is the one that has an objective.



Labor - 1924.

## Migration Movement.

### The Colored Race in the North and East

During the past few years migration of colored people from the South has been extensive in many localities, especially from rural communities where the ravages of the boll weevil have made farming precarious. It appears that the situation which is developing in many parts of the North, East and West, is bringing disaster upon the negroes in many instances.

In Camden, N. J., last week a small group of men in big priced machines rode into the negro settlement there and left written notices for the colored inhabitants to vacate immediately. Reports are to the effect that virtually the entire settlement moved out.

From Niagara Falls, a former resident of Augusta, who is thoroughly in touch with conditions among colored people there and here writes that he is coming back to Augusta just as quickly as he can make the trip. He states that he will have to stop once or twice to make his way here, but he is leaving a community that is dangerous for him, or any other colored people to live in and he is hastening away.

East St. Louis, Ill., is one place where official reports indicate that the negroes are really in a deplorable condition owing to lack of employment. This condition is so general there until mayors throughout this section have been asked to warn colored citizens against coming to that point.

In New York a protest has been filed with the President asking that he use his influence to prevent a negro politician from being elected. In Detroit and Chicago instances have been reported where leading colored professional men have been excluded from desirable residential sections.

If unfavorable weather conditions prevail over that section of the country the coming season there is no doubt but that there will be considerable suffering and much deprivation noted among the colored contingent of the population in many of the big centers, where a large percentage of the negro race have congregated.

The South, and especially this section, offers unexcelled opportunities to the industrious colored citizens and it is reasonably certain that a great home-coming will be staged by those who have gone away before many months have passed. New opportunities and improved conditions will aid in bringing this

situation to pass, but on the whole climatic conditions and a sort of home appeal will predominate and cause the return to be general.

AUG 2 1924

### THE EXODUS OF THE NEGRO

Many of the northern states have been overrun with negroes migrating from the south which has resulted in destitution for many of those who have sought to better themselves. When the first exodus occurred, no doubt, many of these negroes found profitable employment, but as times changed in the northern states and many of the large manufacturing industries closed down and work became scarce, the negro who migrated has found himself without friends and employment.

In East St. Louis, Ill., the mayor and council of that place have become alarmed over the condition and are active in their efforts to stop the influx of negroes from the south. At a recent meeting held in that city the following resolution was introduced and passed:

Mayor's Office, East St. Louis, Ill.

Whereas, it is reported that in the southern states, especially in the large negro settlements, that statements have been made and circulated to the effect that there is a demand for labor in the north, at high wages, and in some cases inducements have been presented to the negro population, which has caused a large immigration of negroes from the south to the north, and:

Whereas, the city of East St. Louis has and is receiving many of these negroes, and a large number of laborers are now out of employment and appealing for work, with no demand for labor of any kind in this vicinity; and,

Whereas, if the exodus of the negro population of the south continues it will cause great suffering and want during the remainder of this year, especially during the winter months; therefore,

Be it resolved by the council of the city of East St. Louis, That efforts be made to advise the people of the south of the true conditions in reference to labor demands and recommend the use of consistent efforts to offset and prevent any further misrepresentation that induce negroes to seek the north for employment.

Be it further resolved, that copies of the resolution be printed and distributed through the southern states to advise and offset former misrepresentations that have been made to its people that has caused the exodus of negroes.

(Signed)

M. M. STEPHENS, Mayor.

The foregoing resolution has been published and broadcasted throughout the southern states. It sets forth the true condition existing in that place which is no doubt true of all other northern towns and cities where these people have flocked during the past three years. A return-day is coming when many of these negroes who were led off by slick talking agents picturing the many advantages possessed in that section of the country over the southern states, will be glad of an opportunity to get back. It is a serious question for them now. Their places have been filled here; especially is this true on the farm. The white farmer has learned to get along without the negro laborer and, should they return, few of them will find employment. We believe that it is better for the country to have the negroes scattered through all the states and now that the migration has been so general and conditions have changed so materially, it is a question whether their return would be for their best interest.

The exodus of the negro robbed the farmer of labor and proved a great inconvenience for the time being, but now that adjustments to conditions have been affected, there is little if any demand for the bulk of the negro labor which formerly held sway in the south.

The negro was advised to remain in the south by his best friends, but the glitter of more money for his hire and betterment in living conditions influenced him to migrate and now he is gone, little encouragement will be offered for his return by the people of the south.

ROME

AUG 6 1924

### SEEK TO CHECK NEGRO EXODUS FROM GEORGIA

FORSYTH, Ga., Aug. 5.—In an effort to check the steady flow of negroes that have been leaving this section as well as other parts of the state for the north, Mayor R. C. Goolsby here recently received a communication from the mayor of East St. Louis, Ill., asking that he lend his aid in the movement to keep the blacks from coming to Illinois and the north.

The Illinois mayor asserted that many of the negroes had come to his city, and that as a consequence they were idle, out of work, and that there was not enough employment to supply the large number that were coming. He further said to the mayor of this city that if the exodus of negroes from this section continue, that it will cause great suffering, and especially so during the winter months.

So serious has the situation become in the Illinois town, according to the mayor in his letter, that recently a meeting of the mayor and city council of that municipality was held, and resolutions adopted calling upon the white citizens of the South to use all the influences in their power to keep the negroes in the Southland.



# PLANS TO ADVISE SOUTH CONDITION OF NEGRO EXODUS

City Adopts Resolutions To Give News  
of Lacking Work.

Due to the growing of unemployment among colored laborers, the city of East St. Louis has recently adopted resolutions which it is spreading broadcast through the South in order to induce the colored population to cease its exodus North while the prevailing conditions exist. There is fear of suffering and want in that city this winter if the negroes continue to take up residence here at the rate in which they have the several months past. The resolutions which was passed and recorded on the 14th of this month and signed by M. M. Stephens, mayor of the city and attested by John J. Hallihan, city clerk, is as follows:

Whereas, It is reported that in the Southern States, especially in the large negro settlements, that statements have been made and circulated to the effect that there is a demand for labor in the North, at high wages, and in some cases inducements of different kinds have been presented to the negro population, which has caused a large immigration of negroes from the South to the North; and,

Whereas, The City of East St. Louis has and is receiving many of these negroes, and a large number of laborers are now out of employment and appealing for work, with no demand for labor of any kind in this vicinity; and,

Whereas, If the exodus of the negro population of the South continues it will cause great suffering and want during the remained of this year, especially during the winter months; therefore,

Be it resolved by the council of the City of East St. Louis:

That efforts be made to advise the people of the South the true conditions as exist in reference to labor demands and use consistent efforts to offset and prevent any further misrepresentations that induce the negroes to seek the North for employment.

Be It Further Resolved, That copies of this resolution be printed and distributed through the Southern States to

advise and offset the former misrepresentations that have been made to its people that has caused the large exodus of negroes.

MAY 1 1 1924

## FROM WHAT TO WHAT?

Articles on the negro migration north continue to appear. In the current issue of one of the leading magazines of America—and the world—is a treatment of this subject which, apparently, is based on a one-sided viewpoint, that is, the viewpoint of one who gives no evidence of ever having studied the negro problem south of the Mason-Dixon line. The author mentions certain northern and eastern cities which he visited to get his facts and theories. His conclusions are based, evidently, on what he has seen in the north.

What a pity it is that so many writers fail to go fully into both sides of such a question. This particular writer, like many others, fails to tell of the advantages the negro enjoys in the south. Perhaps he doesn't know. We can speak with authority only for North Carolina. But this state can challenge the best efforts of any state in the union when it comes to the handling of the negro problem. It is educating them, affording them plenty of work at good wages and protection in work and personal pursuits. What more can be demanded? What more does it afford the white citizen?

Yes, there is another side to the race question. And there is another side in the north. As a matter of fact, the negro question today is puzzling social and moral workers in the north, and the pitiable thing about it is—pitiable for the negro as well as the northern social uplifter—that they don't know how to handle the negro. They accept him as presenting a problem that can be really dealt with and find in him men such as never before confronted them. Also they learn, sooner or later, that the negro can never love the north like he loves the south, and that he doesn't, by any means, look on his sojourn there as permanent but, rather as a vacation period, during which he hopes, in some way, to learn something he hasn't learned, and to gain some thing he hasn't previously gained.

And, poor negro; he is disappointed he is elevated to so-called "social equality" with the white man, and nothing farther from the mind and aspiration of the average southern negro. The cold bites him; the sordid conditions that prevail in the centers of the north and east are far more repulsive to him than his previous surroundings in a land with which he is familiar and where he has friends of lifelong standing. His eyes are opened to the fact that if Utopia does exist as a geographical reality in this world, it is not in that portion of the United States of America north of the Mason-Dixon line, any more than it is in the land of cotton and contentment.

If the idea has gained currency that the best element of southern negroes have migrated to the north, such an idea is entirely erroneous, writers to the contrary—usually uniformed—withstanding. The best element of the southern negro population has remained south. This element does not consist of adventures, but of hard-working, honest men and women, who are seeking to take advantage of what the southern white man is offering them and who, in turn, are gratefully endeavoring to measure up.

From what to what? Let the northern writer analyze and answer this question, and there will be more light shed upon the subject. Let him answer it honestly and intelligently.

Recently, when slurs were cast upon the efforts in behalf of the negro that are being put forth by the south, Professor N. C. Newbold, head of the division of negro education, working under the state department of public instruction, offered to send a negro speaker into the north to present the facts as to what North Carolina, for one state, is doing. The challenge was not accepted. It probably never will be.

Since the southern negro was divorced from politics he has made more progress than during the entire sum total of his existence in the south previous to that time. It was no injustice to the negro to remove him from politics. On the contrary, it was what he needed. He could never have advanced so long as he was the cat's paw of the scallawag and carpet bagger and, later, of a so-called respectable republican party in North Carolina. The negro can never hold political office in North Carolina. But that does not mean it is downtrodden. He is not downtrodden. He can never

The average negro leader today is studying carefully the best ways and means for elevating the members of his own race. He is not teaching "social equality" but equal opportunity. What is North Carolina, for instance, doing for the white man it is not doing for the negro? The negro is a beneficiary of every economic, industrial and educational forward movement. He has a place here. He has his share. Money is being spent to educate him, and not grudgingly. Also, money is being spent to make him a more healthy individual and race. And the negro himself, taking the cue, is seeking to elevate himself. He is not only seeking, but he is actually doing it.

The saddest plight, by far, will be the plight of the emigrant to the north, when he wakes up some cold morning to find that while he has been fooling himself about the glories of the north and the opportunities promised him there, that, after all, it is the negro who has stayed south who enjoys better opportunities than he does. The negro's rival in the south, in fields of endeavor, is the negro. In the north, it is the scum of the earth!

But what of it, after all? It is to the honest southern negro's advantage that all the dissatisfied members of his race seek other fields of work. That will leave the really worth while southern negro with a clear path and the way open ahead. The negro who stays at home, then, and "minds his own business," is the negro that is going to come out the big end of the horn.



Labor - - 1924.

## Migration Movement.

# Negro Exodus From South Stayed; Cold Weather Driving Them Home

Backward Influx of Blacks Regulated Entirely by Expense of Journey—Return Pleases Farmers

By ROBERT T. SMALL

(Special to The Tennessean.)

Jacksonville, Fla., Jan. 14.—The negro exodus from the South has been stayed, and a great return movement has begun. There no longer can be any doubt of this. You hear it from the railroad officials and trainmen, and you see it for yourself on a day's journey through the Southland.

The backward flow of the negro has not the impetus that at one time was attained by the outgo. It is not the result of an exhortation nor has it any financial backing. The negroes are coming back single or in groups of two and three. Occasionally one encounters a Rooseveltian family group. A frail colored woman boarded the south-bound train at Washington. With her were seven children, the oldest one appearing to be about 10 years of age. With her husband and father, this family, too, had heard the call of the North. It had migrated to Philadelphia. But a family of nine on a Virginia farm and a family of nine in the crowded colored quarter of Philadelphia are two entirely different propositions. The mother and children have come home. That was all the money they had. The father must work a little longer in the North until he also can return to the farm.

### Regulated By Expense.

The backward influx of the negro is being regulated entirely by his or her ability to pay the expense of getting home. There was no such difficulty encountered in leaving the South. The countryside was filled with industrial agents drumming up the emigrants, offering them wages they had never heard of before and presenting them with railroad tickets to the new promised land.

That has always been one of the pitiful sides of all the negro migratory movements of the past, this constant searching for the "promised land." In some way the negroes associated it with the camp meeting and revival songs that they sing. They begin to believe there is a land that is better than this, and then along comes some colonizer painting the picture of a land flowing with milk and honey right here on earth without the necessity of waiting for the hereafter.

It is estimated that the poor deluded negro of the South has sunk millions of his hard earned dollars in the various schemes to transport them to Liberia, to other parts of Africa and to some golden tropic island in the never, never land. Frequently the day of departure has been set by the fraudulent promoters, and thousands of negroes, having given up homes and jobs, and many have been left waiting at the depot.

### Driven Home by Cold.

The recent cold waves in the north and west have driven the recently migrated negroes home in large numbers. Many of those who went out of Georgia and Alabama were taken to Chicago. That was to be their promised land. But when the Chicago mercury 10 days ago went sliding down to 16 degrees below zero, the promised land became one of suffering and misery to the negroes, who at home, always thought of a temperature of 40 degrees above as "one sho' nuff" cold wave.

The return of the negro is viewed with a great deal of satisfaction by white people here in the Southeast. They say now that they knew the colored people would come back in time and they assert anew that, generally speaking, the exodus was not started by any bad treatment of the darkey.

They say the movement was 90 per cent economic. Florida felt the exodus the least perhaps of any of the southern states, for there was no upset in any particular line of industry here. Georgia was hit hardest of all, probably because the boll weevil wrought his ravages in the cotton crop there and the negroes, easily discouraged, readily listened to the agents of the northern industry and went away. They are anxious now to return home and those already arrived say the others are coming as soon as they can get the money.

In the end the migratory movement will not have been without its blessings on both sides. The ignorant colored farm hand of the South will have learned there is comparatively little he can do in the north in competition with white labor, and the white people of the south in the joy of getting their natural helpers back, will do much

to make their lot a contented one. The northern agents seem to have disappeared and a great feeling of peace pervades the older section of the Southland.

## ADMIT MIGRATION FELT

REMARKABLE SOUTHERN BUSINESS, GENIUS IN THE NORTH GIVES SPACE TO EFFECT OF COLORED LEAVING SOUTH

By B. C. Forbes in N. Y. American, Jan., 1924

"The South is moulting her feathers for an epoch of prosperity now new even to the New South."

So declares C. Lee Cook, of Louisville, one of the most remarkable men in America, who is now on a visit to New York. Most of us have found it difficult enough to make headway in the world with the possession of all our faculties. This man, although he has never been able to walk a step in his life, and has to be wheeled about in an extraordinarily cleverly devised vehicle designed by himself, has built up a large and successful engineering and manufacturing business and has won distinction as a scholar, an orator, a painter, an authority on ancient and modern history, on constitutional law etc. I once wrote a magazine article about his career and, as I recall, he received almost 10,000 letters mostly congratulating him on his successful fight against such heavy odds.

1-26-24  
Mr. Cook is here to go into important matters with his New York office and to make several addresses. I interviewed him chiefly on conditions and prospects in the South. He replied as already quoted. Under further questioning, I elicited these interesting, authoritative statements:

"As you know, the supreme product of the farm peculiar to the South is cotton, and that this supremacy has met an insidious enemy. The boll weevil has long been a pest of increasing destructiveness to cotton crops. The cause of this has been rather difficult to define, but it seems after all related to two very definite things: one, the difficulties and scarcity of interested and competent labor, and the other the phenomenon of thoughtless but progressive annihilation of bird life, especially the quail. Science, however, in its wonted faith, vigilance and skill, is achieving the assurance of an adequate remedy against cotton's persistent foe.

### Colored Labor Migration

"There has been also a disturbing exodus of the negro to new homes in other sections on the promise of better conditions of life for him. He

has not, however, found that promise always fulfilled, and this problem is correcting itself. The South is providing excellent educational media and better penal service laws.

"There is also a gradually increasing cause for a new spirit of hope and aspiration of the negro in the South, and which undoubtedly will result in his increasing well-being and good citizenship. It is the recognition by the representative classes in the whole Southland that the negro must have an equitable share in the protection and the execution of the law and of common opportunity.

"These potent forces are turning the pilgrimage of the Negro back to his Southern home.

## Migration Is Halted By The Winter Cold

Movement Of Negro Workers From South Will Be Resumed In Spring

Preston News Service.

PITTSBURGH, Pa., Jan. 23.—Winter's snows and cold more anticipated than actual, have caused a temporary abatement in the exodus of Negro labor from the land of cotton; but the prediction is freely made that this abatement will be of short duration, and that even before Gentle Spring put on her new raiment, a new army of Negro migrants will be ready to buy through tickets to northern industrial points of vantage. And since this type of American labor has undeniably made good, what other outlook could there be than with the speeding up of industry in the North, Negro labor should again be called to fill the labor shortage which will undoubtedly exist early this year.

1-25-24  
Prodigals Who Returned  
Press reports, particularly from Southern papers, have essayed to allege that "Flocks of Negroes are returning South," but personal observation of train hands at Memphis, Tennessee, Louisville, Ky., Cincinnati, O., Raleigh, N. C., Richmond, Va., and other typical junction points where trunk lines converge do not support the supposition, that many prodigals are returning. Further, more, welfare societies of New York, New Jersey, Michigan, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Illinois are sending out S. O. S. signals during these winter

months the same as they did last summer, namely, "More food, shelter, and equipment" for the newcomers. Certainly, this does not indicate any appreciable loss of the 500,000 Negro migrants who sought the northern climes during the year 1923.

### Industry's Needs

During 1924, the automobile industry will probably be more active than ever before. Competition and an increasing number of automobile models bespeak good business, the need for workmen, good profits, and good wages. Iron and steel production will undoubtedly reach dizzy heights in 1924. The glass industry shows no signs of being famine-like, and the country's shipping will be at least normal, with the prospect of growth during 1924. Into these industrial spheres, to say nothing of the myriad of other industrial activities to which migrants have ready access. Negro labor has gained a firm foothold, and there is not the slightest reason to expect anything other than an appreciable inclusion of this element of labor in the coming months. Already, the president of a large Ohio steel mill, employing hundreds of Negro workmen, predicts a banner year for his company. Surely he must be an optimist as to the source of his labor supply. And from whence could the augmentation come if not from the Sunny South.

### Restricted Immigration

As an indirect accelerator to the probable migration of 1924, there is the contemplated effect of the new restrictions proposed for foreign immigrants. There has been outlined a plan for the pre-inspection of immigrant prospects before embarkation on the other side. This plan, if carried to a successful conclusion, means a tightening of the reins upon immigrant labor, the previous restriction of which has increased the demands for American labor, and stimulated the movement of Negroes from southern farms to northern factories.

### Recess Nears End

With but few attempts on the part of southern capitalists to improve farm equipment, increase wages, and concentrate their forces upon a program destined to employ permanently their Negro labor element amid satisfactory working and living conditions, and with the accelerated drafting by the high-strung industrial concerns of the wide-awake North, it appears that with the passing of the last cold days of winter, the northward movement of Negro labor will be in full swing and that, perhaps, half a million more units of this type of labor, may in 1924, pass thru open employment gates north of the Mason and Dixon Line.



Linsville, Pa

JAN 3 - 1924

## Exodus of Negroes Back to the South Has Begun Reports In South Carolina Indicate

Five Solid Cars Left Washington Christmas Day Headed for Dixie—Tales of Hardship Told by Those Who Are Back Home.

Abbeville, S. C., Dec. 28.—The negroes are returning in a steady stream from the North and the exodus is now a thing of the past. Five solid cars filled with negroes returning South left Washington, D. C. Christmas day and were dropped along the route until only two cars remained attached to the through Seaboard Airline train when it reached Abbeville.

One negro just returned from Cincinnati says he bought his ticket in that city before six o'clock Saturday morning the 22nd and every train coming through was so packed with negroes returning south a special train was finally made up that night to get the crowd out of the station. He came from Cincinnati down to Chattanooga over the C. & O. & T. P. and in describing his trip said: "Man, that train sho' could run down hill."

The same day Allen Edwards, a South Carolina student at Annapolis, was returning to his home in Edgefield for the holidays and encountered a jam of some 600 negroes packed at the train entrance gates in the station at Washington. His train south was run in three sections and on the second section were twenty-two day coaches filled with negroes returning to their homes in the south.

Upon the arrival of most of the Northern and Western trains it takes on an average of two trucks to handle the baggage of the returning negroes at the station here. The baggage is very light. When leaving a year ago excess baggage was carried, the negroes loading their trunks with glass jars filled with fruit and preserves. Some even killed their winter hogs and packed them up in trunks and took them along to what they supposed was the promised land.

But many of the promises of love and liberty have gone glimmering.

One of those returned says a negro with a large family cannot rent a nice house in Chicago for fear the children will smudge the wall paper or break out the window panes and therefore the family man has to go to the outskirts of the city to live. This handicap will be understood by all southerners who know the great number of children in each family of the ordinary gentleman of color.

Then the personal liberty bubble went up in smoke when the pilgrims were not allowed to whip their own children in the northern cities. Such a country where any colored boys father could not frail the living life out of him when he got "light handed" or lazy was beyond the understanding of those simple people.

And then building slackened, work became scarce, and zero was the mean low level of the weather and the southern negro began to pine for the lightwood knot fires of the old home and to long for the things he had left behind.

But admit it? Never. The negro race is a closed corporation when it comes to talking to white folks. Not one will unbutton his lips about the return and what information is gained comes unwittingly. All claim to be home on a visit, and when asked if they expect to return to the North will invariably answer "We may, and we may not!"

Clark Allen, a very intelligent negro man employed at the Seaboard Airline station here was appealed to in an effort to find out some of the secrets of the return. He closed the questioning by remarking "They wont unfold no riddles." Clarke is something of a cosmopolitan character himself having traveled as far as "Frisco once with "Sell's Floto." He claims he "went further accidentally than these negroes ever got on purpose."

But many of the traveling experiences of the less cosmopolitan characters are pathetic. For instance a mother with three small children, all so near the same size they appeared to be triplets, landed here a few days ago with only 25c in money. They were returning from the North and were bound for Abbeville, Georgia, and not Abbeville, South Carolina. She wandered over the city for hours with her three small children looking for familiar scenes and faces, finally

returning to the railroad station in despair. She was taken charge of by the railroad company and sent to her home. This is only one of the many cases the larger roads have had to handle when the southern negroes get lost and stranded in strange places.

### Tells of Experiences.

One Abbeville negro went to a large northern city and got a good job but after a years experience gets lost every time he tries to get to his work by himself. This particular man hauled wood for a living here for years and no doubt could pilot any northern tourist to safety over the "Snake Road" or any other road in this county.

The return of the negro proves the cause of the exodus last year was economic and that with cotton a good price and the boll weevil scare dissipated the negro naturally prefers to live in the south. Those who remained at home have made fine crops and some have cleared as much as \$1,000 over and above all expenses for living and making a crop.

There is plenty of money among these farmers and the new exodus is to the farm. Every one able to handle a hoe and that can get an acre of land is making plans to plant cotton the coming year. Many of the negro families who moved to town when the crop was destroyed by the boll weevil a year ago will move back to the country and go to farming in earnest. Their places will be taken in town by the adventurers returning from northern cities, and conditions in this section of the country will no doubt drift back to normal before spring opens up.

The negro race is superstitious and many of them believed the boll weevil a curse sent by Providence to scatter them over the face of the earth. Some of these are now afraid the returning negroes may bring the boll weevil back with them.

Many acres of fine farm land had to lie idle last year because of the scarcity of labor and the return from the North of the so farm hands will be welcomed by everyone with the good of the country at heart.

The life of the ordinary negro farm hand in the south is so different from anything in a northern centre he naturally would not be happy or satisfied there, and the exodus of this class was foredoomed to failure. The living conditions of this class is about the same in all sections of the south, but an insight into the life here may be of interest to those not familiar with it.

In South Carolina most of the land is owned by rich men and worked by negro laborers called share-croppers. The landlord furnishes the land, fertilizer, stock, implements and in most cases "rations" to the negro who works the crop. These "rations" or supplies are bought from a local store, often owned by the landlord, on a credit

and for this the cropper gives a "lein" on his share of the crop. Usually he eats up a good portion of his share before the crop is made. Some though are thrifty and come out with money at the end of the year.

When the crop is made it is divided between the owner of the land and the cropper according to an agreement made between them before the crop is planted. In the fall of the year the negro laborer is often quits sharp and will haul a bale of cotton to any neighboring town and sell it for his own use, and it is up to the landowner to see that he does not get away with it.

Almost every business man in a small southern town owns a farm which he draws supplies from and if he gets a good share cropper on any of his farms he usually tries to treat him square and keep him. If a negro farm hand works for a white man worth anything at all he gets a square deal from every other white man. If you would like to see real trouble let one man try to cheat another man's farm hand. And if a negro gets into trouble himself his "whitefolks" are expected to bail him out of jail and stand for anything else he does.

### Two Meals a Day

The working negro usually eats two meals a day. Breakfast consists of hoeecake, syrup, coffee and sometimes bacon. Many have hominy cooked soft with Georgia Cane molasses poured over it. Often this mixture will be carried to work in a tin bucket and eaten for lunch. The second meal is after the days work is done. For this they "boil a pot". A pot of peas, turnip greens, collards or cabbage is boiled with a slice of bacon, or "fat-back" over the open fireplace. When the pot is ready the hoeecake is made of cornmeal, salt and shortening. This is cooked over the coals in an old-fashioned iron skillet with legs and a cover. The skillet is called a "spider". The hoeecake is turned over like a battercake and has lost none of its fine flavor when done.

When the meal is ready neighbors are invariably asked in to eat with the family, after which comes the social hour when all gather around the fireside and talk until late at night. Stories are told and the best loved are those of "old salvery times." The negro also dearly loves a ghost story.

When the story telling begins the cabin door is closed and fastened tight to keep unwelcome ears from hearing the tales, and for fear some of the terrible monsters of their vivid imaginations may appear suddenly in the doorway and cause the instant scatteration of all present.

### WHY NEGROES LEAVE SOUTH.

The South has made a gross blunder in trying to coddle itself into believing that the way to keep its abundance of labor was to "keep the negro down," and that the average Ne-

gro neither could nor would learn. Nothing could have been more fatal to the South, in so far as holding the Negro goes. My own observations during the past ten years among Negro children and their parents leads me to believe that the average Negro child is eager to go to school. But of schools for Negroes most rural communities have only terrible makeshifts. Many rural school houses are little better than sheds; there are often 50 or 60 pupils to one teacher; no equipment; and a poorly trained teacher who receives from \$20 to \$25 a month for teaching. The terms often do not exceed three months in length. Not once but scores and hundreds of times have I been told by Negro tenants of the poorest and most lowly families that they were going North to school their children. That the Negro likes his sunny south and mild climate is surely true, and many leave it with bitter longing, but leave it they are surely doing, and from one part of the earth to another like other peoples who have migrated they are doing it in hope of finding something better—Howard Snyder, in

North American Review.

## Negroes Forced To Flee From Arkansas District

Preston News Service

VAN BUREN, Ark., Jan. 23—According to county authorities only three Negro families remained in the Catcher farming community Tuesday night, following a general exodus of Negro farmers Sunday and Monday. The departure of Negroes, it is said was due to unsigned warnings being posted in several places about the community to the effect that Negroes should leave at once or they would know nothing about being taken a way. It is claimed that as a result of these warnings forty families departed.

Throughout Sunday and Monday it is said, that wagons loaded with Negroes and their belongings left Catcher headed for Oklahoma and Missouri. Three sections of the caravan passed through Van Buren late Wednesday.

It is thought that Negroes do not care for a recurrence of the Elaine county affair nor even a repetition of the trouble recently between the races following the attack and murder of a white woman, Mrs. Effie Mitchell last fall. It is said that a race riot was participated in and one colored man was killed and several whites seriously wounded. The trouble had to be quelled by National Guardsmen.



Labor—1924.

Migration Movement.

JAN 1 5 1924

## The Negroes Leave The South

By W. JETT LAUCK

THE past year has witnessed a dramatic migration of negroes from the south to the north. Expanding industry in the face of a restricted immigrant labor supply has been the fundamental cause. Steel mills, railroads, coal mines and other basic industries in the north have sent their inducements and their recruiting agents to the south. The negroes have answered the call to the extent of more than a half million. Probably one of every four negro males in the south has migrated.

Such a serious dislocation in its labor supply has naturally aroused much southern protest. In the long run, however, the southern states will be benefited.

Throughout the history of the country, the presence of the negro has been an obstacle to the proper development of southern agriculture and manufactures. Farming has, until recently, been restricted to one crop, such as cotton or tobacco. The development of scientific farming methods has also been retarded. The unavailability of cheap but inefficient farm labor supply will stimulate the movement already in progress to improve agricultural methods and operations.

Both American and immigrant wage-earners in the past years have hesitated to go south. They feared being placed on the social level of the negro. As a consequence, it has been exceedingly difficult for the south to secure the semi-skilled labor which its industrial development required of two and three.

There can be no doubt that the migration of the negro from the south, thus started, will be permanent. The large industries in other sections have formerly depended upon the immigrant for additions to their unskilled labor supply and there are no indications that the bars against the foreign-born laborer will be lowered in the near future.

The negro is not adapted to factory employment. Attempts to recruit negro labor forces for cotton manufacturing and other factories have not been successful. Under normal industrial conditions, however, there will be a constant demand in the north and west for the employment of the southern negro in the steel mills, blast furnaces, coal mines, railroads and highway construction and maintenance, and in other basic industries requiring unskilled labor. The future migration of the negro from the south will not be so spectacular and unprecedented as the exodus of the past year but undoubtedly there will be a

constant and steady movement to the industrial communities of the north and west.

## Negro Exodus Ends; Return Movement On

Backward Flow Has Not The  
Impetus Of Outgo At One  
Time, But Is Large

Fraud Is Practiced  
To Get Them North

Find On Arrival Promised Land  
Not The Heaven On Earth  
They Were Made To Believe

(By ROBERT T. SMALL)  
(Copyright 1924 by The News)  
Jacksonville, Fla., Jan. 14.—The negro exodus from the south has been stayed and a great return movement has begun. There no longer can be any doubt of this. You hear it from the railroad officials and trainmen and you see it for yourself on a day's journey through the south.

The backward flow of the negro has not the impetus that at one time was attained by the outgo. It is not the result of an exportation nor has it any financial backing. The negroes are coming back singly or in groups

**In Family Groups Too**  
Occasionally one encounters a Rooseveltian family group. A frail colored woman boarded the south-bound train at Washington. With her were seven children, the oldest appeared to be about ten years of age. With the husband and father, this family, too, had heard the call of the north. It had migrated to Philadelphia. But a family of nine on a Virginia farm and a family of nine in the crowded colored quarters of Philadelphia are two entirely different propositions. The mother and children have come home. That was all the money they had. The father must work a little longer in the north until he also can return to the farm.

The backward influx of the negro is being regulated entirely by his or her ability to pay the expense of getting home. There was no such difficulty encountered in leaving the south. The countryside was filled with industrial agents drumming up the emigrants, offering them wages they had never heard of before and presenting them with railroad tickets to the new promised land.

That has always been one of the most pitiful sides of all the negro

migratory movements of the past, this constant searching for the "promised land". In some way, the negroes associate it with the camp meeting and revival songs that they sing. They begin to believe there is a land that is fairer than this, and then along comes some colonizer painting the picture of a land flowing with milk and honey right here on earth without the necessity of waiting for the hereafter. It is estimated that the poor deluded negroes of the south have sunk in the aggregate millions of hard earned dollars in the various schemes to transport them to Liberia, to other parts of Africa and of some golden tropic island in the never, never land. Frequently, the day of departure has been set by the fraudulent promoters and thousands of negroes, having given up homes and jobs and money have been left waiting at the depot.

**Cold Wave Helps**  
The recent cold waves in the north and west have driven the recently migrated negroes home in large numbers. Many of those who went out of Georgia and Alabama were taken to Chicago. That was to be their Promised Land. But when the Chicago mercury ten days ago went sliding down to sixteen degrees below zero, the Promised Land became one of suffering and misery to the negroes who at home had always thought of a temperature of forty degrees above as a "sho nuff" cold wave.

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They say the movement was ninety per cent economic. Florida felt the exodus the least perhaps of any of the southern states, for there was no upset in any particular line of industry here. Georgia was hit hardest of all, probably the boll weevil wrought his ravages in the cotton crop there and the negroes, easily discouraged, readily listened to the agents of the northern industry and went away. They are anxious to return home and those already arrived say the others are coming as soon as they can get the money.

In the end, the migratory movement will not have been without its blessing on both sides. The ignorant colored farm hand of the south will have learned there is comparatively little he can do in the north in competition with white labor and the white labor and the white people of the south in the joy of getting their natural helpers back will do much more to make their lot a contented one. The northern agents seem to have disappeared and a great feeling of peace pervades the older section of the southland.

MONTGOMERY, ALA.

Advertiser

JAN 1 7 1924

### NEGROES COMING BACK.

Robert T. Small, able correspondent for a group of newspapers, has been inquiring into the truth about the reverse order in which the negro-exodus now seems to present itself. He declares:

The negro exodus from the South has been stayed, and a great return movement has begun. There no longer can be any doubt of this. You hear it from the railroad officials and the trainmen, and you see it for yourself on a day's journey through the Southeast.

Mr. Small wrote the dispatch from which the following is taken from Jacksonville, Florida.

Naturally negroes are not coming back in streams as they went away. Naturally there is no organized return movement. But they are beating a hasty retreat from the frozen North—from Chicago where last week mercury fell to 15 degrees below zero. That sort of weather is not the kind on which a Southern negro thrives.

The more recent migrants to the North particularly have been in distress on account of the rigorous cold; others who have been living North for several years are prepared better to endure the climate. The return movement is the real thing, according to the best sources of information.

Not only did negroes over-estimate their capacity to endure Northern winters, but they failed to foresee the economic conditions in which they have found themselves. They were lied to and misled by paid agents who painted the picture in bright and alluring colors, failing to inform them that the negro finds it difficult to compete with white labor in the North, and is not allowed to work in peace and contentment. They found the cost of living higher than they had been accustomed to. They found sterner discipline than they had been accustomed to. Altogether a large percentage of them must have fared much worse in the industrial cities of the cold country than they were acquainted with back home. Some, however, must have found conditions more to their liking, for they are not expected to return.

Negroes find it harder to finance a return trip than they did the trip out of the South. The chances are that when most of them went away their fares were paid by labor agents. But the labor agent never buys a return ticket. Negroes who



wish to come back home must pay their way as best they can. Sometimes negroes are fortunate enough to re-establish relations with white friends in the South and get the money to pay their fare home, but most of the time they must rake and scrape the money as best they can.

A conductor of an Illinois Central passenger train traversing Kentucky reported to headquarters last week that he had not collected the tickets because he had been unable to make his way through the coaches, jammed with passengers. It was learned that the eager traveling public on this particular train consisted of negroes. "Needless to say," says the Houston Post, "recalling that the mercury was having sinking spells far below zero in Chicago, that this train was Southbound. A train in any other direction at this season of the year does not concern 'Rastus' at all."

Continuing its remarks, the Post says:

The Northern industrial interests are finding out what every Southerner knows now. When the thermometer gets flirtatious with the freezing point negroes find their interest in industry sadly diminished. It doesn't make much difference how lucrative a place they may hold, if it means exposure to cold, somebody is apt to organize an individual strike at once.

Even down here, where we are brushed only occasionally by the tails of the cold waves as they sweep down to be dissolved in the balmy breezes of the Gulf, we rather expect Liza Jane, the cook, and George Washington Lincoln Johnson, the delivery man, to be late on the job, on a cold morning. If neither comes at all that day, no one is surprised.

We of the South understand the situation thoroughly. Those people originating in torrid Africa, and transplanted to the Sunny South are "jes nacherly not built for Yankee weather." We know that as soon as the thaw sets in, "the help" will be around ready to resume operations.

The blizzard that put the goose pimples all over the hide of the North last week did more to turn the steps of the children of "Old Black Joe" toward their home down in Dixie than has all the learned argument against the social and economic menace of the negro migration from the South, that has been voiced in the entire year.

The Northern labor agent has played havoc with the labor supply in some sections of the South. But he failed to tell the emigrants that snow and icicles are Nature's chief articles of decoration in the North during many months of the year. He failed to warn them that housing conditions were poor; that fuel was high and hard to obtain, and that many lines of industry operate intermittently in cold weather.

The white folks down South have been much inconvenienced in places by the emigration of their "help." But they have an influential friend helping to keep the rest of the negroes at home, in the returning wanderer with the message. "It sho am chilly up Nawth."

Those who return are going to make interesting companions for their negro acquaintances in the South. They are going to talk endlessly about life in the North,

and what the returned wanderers have to say is going to have a mighty influence upon those who have never been far away from home.

WILLIAM ALA. NEWS

JAN 23 1924

## Good Advice To Negroes.

SOUTHERN negroes would do well to take under serious consideration the advice given them by one of their race, Rev. J. W. Holloway, pastor of the colored Congregational Church on the corner of Fifteenth Street and Mulberry Avenue. In his year-end message, which was published in this paper Wednesday, the colored pastor told his people that too many negroes are leaving the country for the towns, and he adds that the town is no place for the negro to raise his children.

Perhaps the most vital bit of advice in the message for the negro of today, especially to the negro who lives in the country, is that they should get away from the one-room cabin and the Dixie Boy plow and get a foothold on the land on which all values finally rest. The negro who owns his little farm is independent and the advice given them by one of their race is advice that has been repeatedly given to white tenant farmers, and which many of them have had the wisdom to follow.

Rev. Holloway tells his people that "we have too many persons who have not struck the pioneer trail . . . too many who live out of the storehouse and not out of the smokehouse; too many renters, when good land can still be had for \$5 an acre; too many satisfied with a 25-foot lot in town and not a foot of land in the country."

Through accepting and acting upon advice such as the Congregational pastor gives his people, the negro in the South and the negro in Alabama especially can prosper and become satisfied. If the negroes generally would endeavor more earnestly to push forward to financial independence through doing as the Rev. Holloway tells them to do and would cease their efforts toward finding Utopia in the North, where they never can be satisfied, they would be in far better shape than they are.

There are many opportunities in the rural South for the rural negro. He can own his farm if he tries to do so. He can raise his family in comfort and can put aside a bit for the proverbial "rainy day." If he keeps out of debt and raises on his land most of the things his family and his farm requires, he can be independent. There are no such opportunities for the negro in the North and there are no such opportunities for him in the towns, even in the South. It is the negro farmer in his own right who will be the representative negro of the South in the years to come, for he will be the one to realize upon the advantages the South always offers for those who work and save and are content to remain in the South.

The advice given in his message to the negroes by the Congregational pastor is sound, timely advice and it is to be hoped they will take it seriously to heart. It is advice that is calculated to make the negro better satisfied with the South, to keep him from wandering in unfriendly places and to make him really representative of his race.—Unionist Star.

### A Northern Sample

The blizzard's whip that has been lashing the South during the past few days should serve as an object lesson to "the colored brother" who may have had in the back of his head the Northward migration bee. He may have read in the papers a story of how seven hundred negroes had to crowd their way into a train at Fulton, Ky., until ten standing room was at a premium and additional accommodations had to be wired for, in their eagerness to

get away from a real Northern winter. But hearsay evidence is not so convincing as direct personal contact with freezing temperatures. The past few days will have shown those dwelling even as far South as the Gulf coast how unutterly miserable sun-loving and heat-adoring folks, black or white, can be rendered by chilling blasts and killing frosts.

And yet what we have had, it should be recognized, is but the mildest of imitations of the real thing as meted out to the warmth-loving Southerner who goes North in the illusory pursuit of big wages and "easy money." Our cold record of twenty degrees above, or a bit lower, is bad enough in all conscience, but remember that thirty, forty, fifty and even sixty more degrees of frost must be added to reach the extremes that have been visited upon Chicago, Detroit and other Meccas of the industrial pilgrimage.

It is, of course, a mistake at any time to imagine there is "easy money" in laboring at the North, but when that labor has to be performed after miles of journey from home to plant through below-zero weather, money is hard earned indeed. At such times the fair fields of Dixie must call strongly to the colored workman whose physical system, for unnumbered generations, has been attuned to sunshine and balmy airs.

## GO TO FLORIDA

Many South Georgia Negroes Migrate South Instead of North

ARLINGTON, Ga., Jan. 2.—Practically twice as many negroes left this immediate section during 1923 to live in Florida than for points in the Northern and Eastern states, according to figures on the sale of tickets given out by O. Powell, local ticket agent for the Central of Georgia Railroad. Ticket sales show that 153 negroes bought tickets for various points in Florida in 1923 as compared with eighty sold to Northern and Eastern states. Mr. Powell states that a good many negroes from in and around Arlington bought local tickets to Al-

bany, Ga., and other junction points, from where they then bought through tickets, which do not show in the figures given out.

Comparative ticket sales for 1922 and 1923 show that nearly three times as many negroes left this county for Florida and Northern states during 1923 than did in 1922, as only twenty-six tickets were sold to Northern points and sixty-three to points in Florida in 1922, which is practically correct statistics on the increase of farm labor leaving this section in the last two years.

Nearly 350 negroes leaving in the last two years from out of a radius of not more than ten miles of Arlington, for the sale of tickets from this office covers less than that much territory, is alarming to the agricultural interests in this section. And it is causing the large planters in this county a great deal of worry, for it is feared that a lot of farming lands will "lay out" in 1924 due to the lack of farm labor.

JAN 20 1924

## AN INFLOW OF NEGROES.

A tremendous inflow of negroes from boll-weevil territory into North Carolina has been reported and The Greensboro News is alarmed about it. With good cause, we rather conclude.

That the immigration may upset the balance that now swings so naturally and easily and satisfactorily between the white and the negro races in North Carolina, insofar as mere numerics is concerned, is only one of the contingencies which The News calls to mind as threatening.

Our contemporary quotes a North Carolina negro leader as having remarked that there is peril in the coming of the Gulf States refugees from the boll weevil into this State, because they are of a different class, from the prevailing type of the race, now residing in the State. North Carolina has had a negro population that ought to give it pride for its behavior not only, but for the thrift and industry usually displayed, especially marked in contrast with the leading characteristics of the negroes of some other parts of the country.

It was the expressed fear of this negro leader that the influx might bring in such numerous additions to our negro citizenship that an infection will take place and the splendid spirit of amity prevailing now between whites and blacks in the State will be upset, and strife and contention result.

It is more than a passing, shadowy sort of a fear that is thus vocalized. It is a very strong possibility that such will come to

pass because of the new blood being imported, or rather importing itself, because, after all, North Carolina does not need any additional advertisement to impress outsiders with the opportunities here for employment in our industrial enterprises.

They have heard already how the State is growing and building, and they come to work on construction forces as well as to find occupation in our agriculture pursuits which, fortunately, are better blessed with boll-weevil immunity than any other State in the belt.



Labor—1924.

Migration Movement.

# Where Shall Jim Crow Live?

NEW YORK COLLIER'S WEEKLY  
FEBRUARY 19, 1924

By W. O. Saunders

OUT of nearly twoscore years' association with the negro in the South, out of all my observations and study of the negro, I am compelled to believe that the solution of his problem in America rests largely with his own leaders. Given a free hand to work out his own destiny, I believe the negro is eager to establish his racial personality, to live by himself, to create an art, a literature, a music and a social life of his own independent of the white man, and forever respectfully recognize the barrier of color. If there is such a thing as a negro desire for social equality, I cannot find it.

The negro likes his kind and would feel no more at home among white folks than white folks would feel at home among negroes. An old-fashioned negro preacher put it to me this way:

"The last thing a nigger does want is social equality. Why, what would de white folks know what to do wi' social equality if dey had it? White man just wouldn't know how to enjoy hi'self wi' a nigger; he kain't sing like a nigger; he kain't dance like a nigger; he kain't laugh like a nigger; he kain't shout like a nigger; he kain't pray like a nigger; he kain't play like a nigger, an' a nigger c'n git mo' music out'n a jew's-harp in a minit den a white man c'n git out'n a orchestra in a fortnight."

I addressed an inquiry to three hundred negro school-teachers asking them to tell me their wants. I supplied them with self-addressed envelopes and stipulated that no names should be signed to the communications addressed to me. I wanted them to feel free to tell me the truth. Not one expressed a desire for social equality. The sum of their wants was a desire for equal educational opportunities, justice before the law, fair wages, lights, water, sewerage, police and fire protection in their part of the town. One writer said: "No segregation laws would be necessary anywhere if colored people could rent decent homes with lights, water, sewerage, and police protection in their section of the town the same as in the white residential section."

I have found proof of this in many Southern towns and cities where the races have made happy adjustments and are living amicably side by side. The town of Durham in my own State of North Carolina is an example

There has been no migratory movement from Durham, and here is the reason as given by C. C. Spaulding, president of the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company. Mr. Spaulding is a negro, and his company is a negro company that has built up a great business, occupying its own seven-story modern office building in that city.

## Killing "Colorphobia"

MR. SPAULDING sums up the four principal reasons why the spirit of migration has not touched the negro citizens of Durham, as follows:

"(1) Economic opportunities offered to a large enough percentage of the population to assure a decent livelihood.

"(2) Healthful and pleasant working conditions.

"(3) The spirit of cooperation created by negro enterprises, which has aided thousands to secure comfortable houses.

"(4) The general spirit of Durham is full of friendliness, as well as an earnest desire to make the negro population a part of its citizenry. The vote is never denied because of color. Splendid educational and social opportunities are provided for negroes. There has never been a lynching, and colored men are given an honest hearing in courts."

There is ample evidence in many other parts of these United States that the negro prefers segregation if not too severely discriminated against in the apportionment of educational and public-improvement funds. As far back as 1888 the Legislature of Ohio admitted colored children to the white public schools of that State. But there are two schools in Cincinnati to-day in which the negroes have voluntarily segregated themselves.

The first of these schools, known as the Douglas School, was established about fifteen years ago in a section of the city where many negroes had acquired homes of their own and built up a desirable negro suburb.

Within recent years a more considerable negro settlement has grown up in a congested tenement district embraced in the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Wards. The negro population in this congested district is estimated at 17,000 to 18,000, badly housed, mor-

ely in rented tenements. Miss Jennie Porter, an ambitious negro teacher in the Douglas School, conceived the idea of a segregated school for negroes in this district. She finally succeeded in persuading a friendly school board to build such a school. It was estimated that an elementary school as a beginning would do well to start with an enrollment of 600 pupils. Plans were drawn for a school plant to accommodate 1,200 pupils, which it was believed would suffice for a number of years. The Harriet Beecher Stowe School, with Miss Porter as principal, opened about June 1 last year. It opened with an enrollment of 1,600 pupils, the platoon system being adopted to take care of the overflow of 400 pupils. Not one of these negro pupils is compelled to go to this segregated school.

Still, the school was not built without opposition. Representatives of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People came to Cincinnati and denounced Miss Porter for her work. Negroes were exhorted to resent this attempt at segregation in the North and to put their children in white schools. Before the Stowe School had been turned over by the contractors, black hoodlums, encouraged by fanatical agitators, broke out every window in the building. The windows were replaced and there have been no further demonstrations. Miss Porter was right: the negro, if left alone, prefers the company of his own.

I am told that this is but the beginning of segregated schools in Cincinnati; the negro is demanding schools of his own, not alone for the sake of segregation, but that he may have schools peculiarly suited to his needs. The education that serves a white child is not enough for a negro. The white

inherits from birth what the negro by years of education and painful experience must acquire. Inheriting so much, there is omitted from the curriculum of a white man's school much that a negro needs to learn. One of these things is race pride; another is cooperativeness—to mention only two. Thoughtful negro leaders are deeply conscious of the limitations of their people. The negro has made little progress in literature, in the arts, and in the sciences. This fact sticks out like

sore thumb in the consciousness of leaders of the race, and is ably expressed by C. M. Battey, instructor in photography at Tuskegee Institute, who is in truth an artist. Mr. Battey says: "No race or group has handed down for limitless ages anything that is imperishable of itself until it has established its true individuality in its own arts. We are to-day immortalizing our folk songs, but they are not sufficient to lift us; we must develop in all other branches of the arts. When these other branches receive more liberal consideration and are brought to the classrooms from the kindergartens on up through the colleges, we are going to behold a vastly different type of negro—American—a type that will be loved and not despised, and, too, it will toll the death knell to 'colorphobia.'"

Dr. Sutton E. Griggs, pastor of Tabernacle Baptist Church, Memphis, Tenn., one of the most eloquent leaders of his race, says:

"The underlying traits of English character, the determining actions that seem to spring unfailingly in times of great crises from the instincts of the people, are not gotten by mastering the textbooks in use in their schools. We may come into full knowledge of the last fact revealed by the sciences which they have developed, and yet may be far removed from the very first lesson that makes for racial success. What has a race gained if through astronomy its members have learned how to measure the distance from the earth to the sun, but have not learned how to measure the distance between themselves, have not learned to eliminate those distances, have not learned how to prevent further useless estrangement and divisions? Why jubilate over a high mark made telling how the English people have cemented so large a part of the world into a tremendous federation if the student making the high mark is so lacking in the essentials of unity that he can never be a factor in a union of forces necessary to take care of the interests of his little neighborhood?"

## The Town Without a White Man

AND so at the bottom of much conflicting opinion we find the more intelligent and race-conscious negro having a clearly defined idea of his racial needs. We find too that he is assuming responsibility for the working out

of his problem; he realizes that his uplift is his own and not a white man's problem, and that his work of individual uplift will not be completed until he has uplifted the humblest and most ignorant of his own group.

At Mound Bayou, Miss., negroes have founded a town of their own. There is not a white man in it. At Mound Bayou the negroes voted a bond issue of \$115,000 on themselves to build a consolidated rural high school. I went through that school, and was impressed that of twelve classrooms, only five were allotted to academic work; seven were set aside for domestic science and industrial arts.

Citizens of Mound Bayou profess happiness in their self-imposed segregated life. The town of Mound Bayou was begun in 1888 by Isaiah T. Montgomery, who was formerly a slave in the family of Jefferson Davis. The railroad that had just penetrated the great Yazoo and Mississippi Delta sought his aid in peopling the millions of acres along its right of way.

After many careful surveys Mr. Montgomery chose Mound Bayou, and in partnership with a cousin, Benjamin T. Green, bought 1,000 acres of land outright. The place was but a wilderness of big timber with a dense undergrowth of cane and briars, through which one had to hew every foot of his way with ax and scythe. In that wilderness Mound Bayou was established and has grown to-day into a town of 1,000 population, surrounded by 30,000 to 40,000 acres of farms owned by negroes or owned and operated by ne-



groes. Mound Bayou farmers raised last year 8,000 bales of cotton under boll weevil conditions.

Mound Bayou looks just like many another Southern town where the population is white and black. But in Mound Bayou one finds the railroad depot, the telegraph office, the telephone exchange, the post office, the drug store, the bank, the cottonseed-oil mill, the newspaper, the cotton gins, the saw-mill, the electric shoe-repair shop, bottling works, smithy, woodworking shops, the hotel, the movies, and fifteen stores—all run by negroes. I sought an interview with the mayor, Benjamin A. Green, and found him a young negro graduate of Harvard University. I asked to see the policemen of the town, and found there were two of them, and both of them in overalls at work on the streets. Here negroes, hewing for themselves, besides taxing themselves to build a \$115,000 schoolhouse, have built and maintain more than six churches, costing nearly \$75,000. The first brick church built in Bolivar County, Mississippi, was built by the

negro Baptists of Mound Bayou. Everything in Mound Bayou is of negro origin with the exception of its Carnegie Library. The Carnegie Library is the only gift from white men to the town of Mound Bayou.

The negro not only seems to know what he needs, but how to manage for and by himself.

Mound Bayou justifies the belief that the negro's strongest leaders will not depart from the South. Millions of their uncertain brethren may flee to a temporary economic betterment in the North, but the wise leaders will stand by the institutions they have built up in the South, and here in the South—in a climate more nearly suited to the physique and temperament of a tropical race—they will strive for the development of a true personality and the outfitting of greater leaders.

It would be a calamity for the black man indeed if, in the search for immediate gain, he should have lost sight of what he really wants.

The race or the individual that gets there is the one that has an objective.

The negro is moving North in large numbers. What does he want? Does he want to live next door to you, and send his children to school with yours? Or is he seeking only better living conditions and opportunities among his own people? Mr. Saunders, a Southern white man, has traveled for Collier's among negroes North and South, and has sent a questionnaire to three hundred colored leaders. They told him what the negro really wants, and he gives you here a human story, with the facts that you want to know.



© C. M. Battey, Tuskegee Institute

The negro doesn't like squalor. This is the sort of thing he moves away from whenever he can

was pointed out here today by railroad officials. Little is heard now of negroes leaving agricultural districts or towns and cities in the South for the North.

On the other hand, it was stated, that many of the negroes who left Southern homes to try their fortunes in the Northern cities have managed to get back into the South and that they are well content to stay here.

The negroes, it was asserted, have been disillusioned. These who went North found the promises held out for higher wages, better living conditions and greater social equality were merely the highly colored fiction of the labor agent.

In many instances, it was stated here, negroes who went North found

wages no better than they have been receiving in the South and in every instance they found living expenses much higher, so much higher in fact that the small increase in pay did not help in any way.

The promise of better living conditions was even more false than that of high wages, for many of the negroes in the Northern cities lived huddled in tenements that were crowded with other negroes, unsanitary, without proper light or sufficient air and no room for children to play. The social equality promise, of course, was wholly false.

This summer, railroad men here state, there has been little said of negroes moving to Northern centers. In previous summers great

numbers were reported from various Southern states as leaving for Northern cities and the exodus became so great in some states that there was fear of an acute shortage of common labor on farms and in the manufacturing plants employing negroes. There is no hint of such a shortage now it was stated

### Northern Labor South

WORKERS are following wealth in its hike Southward, according to reports from the mill regions of the Carolinas and Georgia. Just as the South has been losing her unskilled negro labor to the industrial centers of the Middle West, so New England is parting with her skilled white textile operatives as the latter follow Northern investment in the spinning and weaving enterprises to the Southern states.

This condition is by no means meeting the approval of labor organizations in the South, yet as the newcomers are members of the union in good standing, no means has been found to halt the influx. Apparently this is no organized effort on the part of the employers to bear the labor market, and some of the labor leaders are blaming the flivver for the condition. Up in New England, where the textile industries have been in trouble for many months, the out-of-work operative hears of activity South, bundles friend wife and the kids into the trusty "Lizzie" and hits the trail for Charlotte, N. C.

Usually they are excellent workers, pa, ma and the children, and when they show their union cards there is no way to say them nay when they apply at the works. Not infrequently they are found, temporarily at least, more desirable than the home-grown labor, which has become a bit spoiled and blase in the matter of job acceptance due to a scant labor supply and an active demand.

In theory the local labor is given preference, but in practice the rule does not seem to hold, and it is not surprising if in mills controlled by Boston money and in plants where foremen from Massachusetts or Connecticut are in charge that labor from "Down East" should be given at least an even break with the soft-voiced native product.

At all events such a condition has been complained of, and perhaps it will continue at least until the New England mills get back on a full-time, full-complement basis.

CHICAGO, July 24.—Dearth of employment for negro laborers has been observed by officials of the United States employment service in this region for the past month. Barney Cohen, director of the service for the Third District, embracing Indiana, Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin, said today.

"The scarcity of common labor in the building trades, which brought many negroes north, has ceased," said

Mr. Cohen. "In the slackness of employment in this and other industries which now prevails, preference is generally given by employers to white labor."

## Exodus of Blacks Has Been Stopped

Atlanta, Ga. June 28.—The migration of negroes from Southern states to Northern industrial centers appears to have been checked, it



Labor—1924  
Migration Movement.  
**Georgia Capitalist Declares  
Prosperity Of South Linked With  
Well-Being Of The Negro**

**Migration Of Negro Has Beneficent Reaction**

Atlanta, Ga., Feb. 22.—Remarks Electric and Power Company. During Mr. George J. Baldwin, president of the world war he was president of the Savannah, Ga., Board of Trade of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company, and has held many other exceedingly responsible positions. The Atlanta Chamber of Commerce is composed of 1,500 members and comprises within its membership practically every important business establishment in the city of Atlanta. In emphasizing the place which the Negro must occupy in the prosperity of the State before this important and influential group of leading Atlanta citizens, Mrs. Baldwin showed rare courage and frankness. Members Atlanta Chamber Of Commerce Meet With Negro Business Men

**Trained Leaders Needed**  
Declaring that the greatest need of Georgia today is "trained leaders," Mr. Baldwin said: "The highest need of our State is trained leaders, of men of courage. It is not in our fields, our mines and our forests which make a State prosperous and happy, it is not in our power companies, our railways, our steamships, our farms and our factories that will make Georgia great. These are the mere tools men use in building their communities and their homes. The true factories of our prosperity are our homes in which mothers and fathers are building the character of our future citizens."

**Keep The Negro Here**  
Mr. Baldwin declared that the prosperity of Georgia and the South depends upon keeping the Negro here. It is either to hold the Negro in the South or to replace him by immigration from Europe, "which brings with it the bolshevist and anarchist," he said.

"This economic question will settle itself," Mr. Baldwin declared. "We can afford to pay the Negro as good wages as in any other section of the country, measured by the quality of the services he renders. When this is known the question will be settled."

Mr. Baldwin is chairman of the Board of Directors of the Savannah

Co-incident with this banquet was a meeting of a number of leaders of the Atlanta Chamber of Commerce with officers of the Standard Life-Citizens Trust-Service Company triangular group of business enterprises operated by colored men in Atlanta, at which meeting there was a full discussion looking to a closer understanding of the relations between white and colored citizens of Georgia in the matter of co-operation in the industrial and civic problems of the State of Georgia.

Heman E. Perry, who heads this great group of business enterprises operated by colored men in Atlanta, in speaking of the meeting, stated that a spirit of co-operation and friendliness was exhibited by each and every member of the Atlanta Chamber of Commerce present, and that in his opinion it is the dawn of a new day when the dominant business interests of the South indicate a willingness to co-operate in improving the economic welfare of the colored people through the business agencies set in motion by the colored people themselves.

FEB 21 1924

**Deterring Migration From the Farm**

Of all the deterrents to negro migration northward that have been suggested, that of C. A. Whittle, writer in the Manufacturers Record, is perhaps the most novel and, on its face, the most simple.

He would encourage negro tenant farmers to raise live stock. The cow, the sow, the hen, create conditions on the farm that breed contentment, he declares. Contentment has one of its roots in sufficient nourishing food. The farmer who is flanked with live stock is capable of living at home. He need not be beholden to any man for his subsistence.

There is sound common sense in that plan. The wonder is that it was not thought of before, and put into practice by those most interested in keeping the negroes at home in the South. The failure of negro farmers to have many of the comforts that are within their reach is responsible in large measure for their restlessness and desire to seek other fields.

They may be responsible for their failure, largely, but that does not relieve the white people of means of their duty of helping the negro to live better, by educating him in methods of obtaining a comfortable living through producing live stock and home garden truck, and by assisting him financially to get started in the production of those things.

There are difficulties in the way, to be sure. The plan is not as simple, as it appears. Many of the negroes are wasteful, improvident, and indifferent. But these traits would tend to disappear if their white neighbors and landlords took more interest in teaching them better methods.

This matter of encouraging the production of live stock on tenant farms applies to white as well as colored tenants. Tenant farmers generally could live better, if they gave more attention to the cow, the sow and the hen. One of the calamities of tenant farming in Texas is the absence on many such farms of any of these producers of the primary essentials of life.

The tenant farmer who devotes all his energy to producing a crop of cotton, to get money with which to go to town to buy meat, butter and eggs, is violating the first principle of successful living on the farm. Yet there are thousands of tenant farmers in Texas who do that very thing year after year. Not only that, they buy their feed for their work stock in town, instead of producing it.

In extenuation of this unsound practice, it may be said that many landlords, greedy to get a share of every pound of cotton that can be produced on land rented to tenants, do not encourage their tenants to do anything but produce more cotton.

The Agricultural and Mechanical college, with its cow, sow and hen train, is doing much to educate the tenant farmers to the desirability of producing their own living at home, and having their field crops for profit. A widespread adoption of that plan will check not only the negro migration to the industrial centers, but the abandonment of the farms by tenants generally.

FEB 23 1924

**SOUTHERN NEGRO  
IS WILLING TO  
LEAVE NEW HOME**

**Plantation Owners and Employes  
Told How It Is Possible to  
Arrange for Return.**

Southern negroes in Chicago are making applications daily to be sent back south because of unsatisfactory employment and weather conditions, according to advice received at the local Chamber of Commerce yesterday.

The communication suggests that the best way to handle the return of the negroes is for plantation owners in each community to organize and appoint one of their number to go to Chicago with a bank draft covering sufficient amount for the necessary railroad passenger fares.

Stanton Curtis, general passenger agent of the Mobile and Ohio, signee of the communication, names the Golden Star Employment Agency, 2233 South State street, as an agency sending families and single negroes back south.

"H. H. Bohrer, our northern passenger agent, 112 West Adams street, Chicago, will spend all the time necessary with any representative sent from the south to bring about the desired result," he writes.

The railway official offers the following information to planters wishing to return negroes from Illinois:

"The following extract from Illinois revised statutes, 1917, chapter 48, section 67d, relates to employment agencies: 'No such licensed person shall send out any applicant for employment without having obtained a bona fide order therefor.'

"Therefore, it will be necessary for each plantation owner to address a letter to Morris, stating that he wants so many families or single negroes, and that the plantation conditions will be something like the following: 'One-half of the proceeds of the crop; comfortable houses, garden spots, fire, water and fuel; good schools and churches; rich land, including mules, tools and seed; railroad transportation advanced, same to be paid out of 1924 crop; assistance given through the winter months, also furniture and clothes; necessary advance will be made during the year; last, but not least, just and kind treatment.'

"The labor agency fee is \$6 for each family and \$3 for each single negro up to five, and \$2.50 for each single negro furnished in parties of five or more. This letter, addressed to Morris, should be taken to Chicago by the representative from each community, and for each plantation owner; or if the matter is handled through us, then we should be furnished such a letter addressed to Morris, together with remittance large enough to cover number wanted.

"Single negroes can be obtained rather easily. It is necessary to do some advertising and some work in order to get families, but the families can be obtained."



## Coming Back South.

A great many of the negroes who went north last summer are coming home again. Some of them find weather in the north too severe for them. Some of them are disappointed in the wages they received. Some of them find the cost of living too high in the north. Some of them are getting home sick. They long to get back home in the balmy southland.

Robt. T. Small, a newspaper writer with headquarters in New York and Washington, published a story sent out from Jacksonville this week giving his observations of the shifting of the negro population. He gave his personal observation in traveling thru the south, and he found that many of the negroes were satisfied with their experiences in the north. They have enough.

Mr. Small, however, takes the position that the little exodus of the negroes from the south will do good to all concerned. It gives the north a close-up view of the negro problem. It gives the southern white man a keener appreciation of the negro as a laborer. The negro himself finds that all is not a bed of roses in the north any more than it is in the south. There will always be more or less going and coming of the negro laborer. There need be no fear that this labor will become extinct in the south. It may as well be realized that the north is bidding against us for this labor, and that this cross-bidding will run the price up. This will not hurt the south. Cheap labor is a thing we have had in too great abundance.—Moultrie Observer.

leans and have a number of copies sent to the negroes who work and live on their plantations. It points out that this is one of the best ways to open the eyes of the negroes to the folly of migrating to the Northern states.

## Figures Tell The Story

—By Holloway



THE latest number of the American Cane Growers' Bulletin, the official publication of the American Sugar Cane Growers' association, recommends to its members that they subscribe to the National Negro Voice, published in New Or-



Labor - 1924.

## Migration Movement.

LABOR SITUATION IN NORTH  
WILL NOT JUSTIFY FURTHER  
INVASION BY COLORED  
WORKERS.

The attention of Southern Negroes contemplating pilgrimage to the North this summer is called to the warnings issued by the City Council of East St. Louis and received Friday by Commissioner McLendon. The resolution reads in part:

Southern Negroes had better stay at home. There are no jobs for them in the North. Steps should be taken to stop the misrepresentations that are being made concerning the labor situation north of the Mason and Dixon line. 8-9-24

There is manifestly here, no animus expressed against the Negro as a race, but simply a cold statement of fact relative to the labor situation. There are no jobs for the Negroes.

Not all Northern industrial sections have enjoyed the continued activity that has marked the Birmingham district, where for many months there have been very few unemployed able-bodied workers. In some Northern cities the problem of idle workers has been continuing. Many huge plants have closed down or are running on part time. The governments of cities such as East St. Louis realize that any large exodus from Southern cities, where good times and plenty of employment exist, to Northern cities, where industries are finding difficulty in keeping their local labor engaged at living salaries, would be worse than folly. Hence they are issuing the warning in due season that there may be no undue suffering amongst those who have been deluded into believing that the North is still the Promised Land for colored people.—Birmingham News.

The American Negroes are laboring people; they derive their incomes mostly from the use of their muscles. They are not merchants or salesmen, except as they are able to sell their labor, and because of the lack of intelligence their labor is most always contracted for and had at a very low price. This puts the Negro in great demand, but makes for him many enemies among laboring groups of other races.

The labor market is very dull at this time, this is true throughout the American states, and indications are

that it is going to be poor for several months yet. In times like these, a greatly impressed by any expression of advice that comes from East St. Louis, Illinois. The faith and good will of that city was thoroughly tested a few years ago when the officers and soldiers simply massacred laboring Negroes because they were employed and doing work that white men and foreigners thought they should not be doing. East St. Louis will always be considered by the Negro as one of the many sections in America that disregards law and order and offers little or no protection for the humble or less fortunate groups in its borders.

If we are to rely upon newspaper reports, and that is our best source of information, much suffering is to be had among our people if we continue to be extravagant in the purchase of railroad tickets merely to exploit certain sections and to locate in a different atmosphere. It is fine to seek cool and pleasant spots, but no spot can be pleasant and comfortable if we have an empty stomach and a hungry family. Many of our group are prosperous and successful in sections where they have migrated, and thousands of them are in destitute conditions, but because of the pride that characterizes the feeling of decent humanity, many thousands of them are likely to suffer on rather than confess their error and return to their home sections, where opportunity in the laboring field is more favorable.

This is no disposition to claim any one section of America as being more the home of the Negro than another; any place or any land on American soil is his home as an American and he should look to all sections for protection and comfort. We are trying to advance the thought that in serious moments such as confront us today, it is necessary to be near those we know best, among our friends and relatives, and in a section where our ability and chances for a livelihood excel that of those who may be in opposition.

The Birmingham News' editorial emphasizing the East St. Louis Chamber of Commerce resolution is rather timely and altogether helpful at this time. Just such disposition as is exercised by the Chamber of Commerce in East St. Louis is the feeling and expression of many other sections, according to current reports. The Na-

The Negro people in our section, especially those in our mineral fields, should exercise great carefulness and precaution at this time. We are attempting no criticism or censure of our Northern plants or Northern conditions, it is our mind that we can best serve our interest and be sure of a place at a time like this where we are.

ST. LOUIS POST DISPATCH

## SAYS NEGRO MIGRANTS HAVE ADAPTED SELVES

Urban League Secretary Asserts  
Most of Them Have Proved  
Themselves Fit.

Negroes who migrated here from the South in the last few years for the most part have adapted themselves to local living conditions, William V. Kelley, industrial secretary of the Urban League, declared in the following statement:

"Two years ago a general topic of the day was negro migration. Many questions were asked, 'Why is the negro coming North? What is he going to do when demand for common labor closes down? Where is he going to stay? Is he adaptable to Northern conditions of social, religious and industrial life? Will he not go back when hard times come? Many answers were volunteered. He was coming North for personal freedom. The other questions were hard to speculation.

"The migrant gave rise to the question and has answered it for us. We have witnessed a great

struggle for existence. An overwhelming proportion of those people have proved themselves fit to survive, and by their frugality have caused the Northern negro to realize his own possibilities. As lamentable as it may seem, it is true that much of such progress has been made, not because of, but in spite of Northern city residents. The better classes have long since been forgotten as migrants, for they have intrenched themselves in the economic life of the community by their perseverance and thrift.

"On the other hand, there have come large numbers who are unable to survive through their own efforts. Some of these have come to appreciate their inability for honestly caring for themselves and have gone back South to the plantation where an existence is guaranteed by the plantation owners. For those of the last-named class who persist in remaining, the public must be responsible.

"The employment department of the Urban League feels very keenly that responsibility, for the public is constantly calling for high-class help that we were able to furnish a year ago, but is offering extremely little for such help. The difficulty is obvious. Even under such a handicap, we were able to place 445 persons in employment for September, bringing the total for the first eight months of 1924 up to 3876."

## NEGROES NORTH AND SOUTH

The other day a negro farmer living in the vicinity of Bamberg, S. C., walked into the office of the Bamberg newspaper for the purpose of paying his subscription. The man who waited on him asked: "Gus, do you owe any money?" "I owe two dollars," was the reply, "and I'm in here now to pay that."

This colored farmer is Gus Simmons, who owns three hundred and fifty acres of fine farm land in the vicinity of Bamberg, and is estimated to be worth about \$40,000, all of which he has accumulated by staying on his farm and attending to business. R. M. Hitt was telling the Charleston News and Courier about Simmons the other day—telling how he is respected by all classes of people in his community, has good credit at banks and stores, and has built his success in the community in which he was born.

The News and Courier gives the following interesting facts about Gus Simmons, negro farmer:

"Gus" is worth not less than \$40,000, and he made it all himself. He is a farmer and carpenter. He lives right where he was born. He owns some of the finest farm properties around Bamberg—three hundred and fifty acres of cultivatable land. He bought his first farm fifteen years ago, paying \$1,000 cash and giving a mortgage for the remainder which he made good after six or seven years of hard work, and then—he bought more land. His land, under the good care he gives it, has increased in value five times since he bought it. There is poor land all about him, but he makes fine crops, boll weevil or no boll weevil. He pays cash for all he buys. He lives at home. He and his wife have nine children, one of whom is in college. One of his boys wanted to buy an automobile, but he discouraged the idea and advised that he wait until he had "got one thousand dollars in the bank when he could spend it as he wished." The boy did not buy. "Gus himself," said Mr. Hitt, "though he is well able to buy a fine car if he wanted one, says he considered that he could raise his children better without one."

"During the war," Mr. Hitt said, "when committees were out selling war savings stamps, Gus bought several thousand dollars' worth. Asked how he wished to purchase them, he pulled out a check book and wrote the check in full. That is his plan; he always pays for what he buys."

"Gus" was asked: "Have you ever had trouble with any white people?" He laughed. The idea was ridiculous. He said he had never had trouble with anybody, least of all with white people. He is a friend of the white man and the white man is his friend. He has never been involved in a lawsuit in his life. . . . "For thirty-six years he has been a deacon in Eden Baptist Church, and most of his children are members of the same church."

This story was worth telling and it is told very well. It is doubtful that it could be duplicated by any story that could be told truthfully about any of the colored people who have gone North to get rich overnight.



## "IN THE PROMISED LAND"

The Banner-Herald has contended that the exodus of the negro was a blessing to the south, but a calamity to the negro. The negro has not profited from his wanderlust and the new El Dorado pictured to him has proved a typhoon of destruction, both in health and character. "Human Service", official publication of the United Charities, in summing up the records of the years of 1922-23 and 1923-24 says:

Nearly one-fifth of all families under the care of the United Charities during the year 1923-24 were Negro, or a total of 791. This is an increase of 104 per cent over the Negro families under care in 1922-23. When it is realized that the negro population of Chicago is only about one-twentieth of the total population, the heavy proportion of negro families which were helped by the United Charities last year is seen at once.

Some of the social conditions incident to life in Chicago for these recent migrant negro families are revealed in a study just completed of 179 negro families that were handled by a district office in September, 1924; 91 of these families had been in Chicago less than two years. Most of the others a little longer. Only a few families were native to Chicago; 101 of these families lived in rooming houses in from one to two rooms, under very crowded and insanitary conditions, conducive to immorality and disease.

These facts show the effect of higher rents that the negroes are forced to pay. In order to make ends meet, if possible, on their low wages as unskilled laborers, they have been forced to "crowding" two, three and even four large families into living quarters hardly ample for one family. These crowded conditions lead to disease and undermining of health, as well as the break-down of family privacy and the breeding of domestic troubles.

The report goes further and warns the negro from coming to Chicago and advises that the negro is much better off in his native home than he is among his supposedly Northern friends. All of which is true. The negro is better off on the farm and in industrial lines in the south, even though at a remuneration much smaller for his labor. The increased cost in living conditions in the north more than offset the difference in pay from that which is paid in the south.

The departure of the negro has been a blessing to the agricultural interests of the south. It has caused the white farmer to go to work and depend upon his own resources. For these many years, the

negro has been hired as a laborer or rented land and at the end of the year, the landlord has met his obligations for him and if the crop has not earned expenses, then the landlord has been accustomed to feeding and clothing the negro for another year and taking chances on an increased crop with which to meet his obligations. That condition helped to keep the white farmer and land owner embarrassed financially and both landlord and tenant suffered. Now, the white farmer and landlord has gone to work and whatever is made belongs to him. It is not a question of dividing the receipts from the crop with the negro tenant or cropper, but whatever has been made goes to the farmer. It has taught the white farmer to be independent and rely upon his own resources which will mean prosperity in the south and the dawning of a new era in agricultural lines.

## NEGROES IN CHICAGO

The News-Tribune has never participated in the clamor against the exodus of the negro from the South, believing as we do that it is an economic question. Although we have felt that for their own welfare the negroes should remain in the South, we did not become alarmed by the steady stream of negro emigrants from this section, because it was our opinion that eventually they would themselves see the error of that exodus and therefore more quickly become satisfied with conditions here than they would if subjected to any sort of restraint in the movement. Recent reports from Northern cities indicate that negroes are not finding conditions in "the promised land" as comfortable as they had anticipated. Human Service, official publication of the United Charities of Chicago, for example, gives the following report on conditions there:

Nearly one-fifth of all families under the care of the United Charities during the year 1923-24 were Negro, or a total of 791. This is an increase of 104 per cent over the Negro families under care in 1922-23. When it is realized that the negro population of Chicago is only about one-twentieth of the total population, the heavy proportion of negro families which were helped by the United Charities last year is seen at once.

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Seventy-four lived in crowded apartments with more rooms, but also more boarders or roofers, so that the crowding was scarcely less than in the rooming houses.

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## Negroes Returning From Cold North

SPARTA, Ga., Dec. 10.—Many negroes from Hancock County who went north last spring are flocking back asking for their old farms back. They say the North turned their thoughts back home and they began to travel southward. They state that "they can make just as much money in Georgia as they can up north, after the high living expenses are paid." Many negroes from this county in the Northern States from exposure and this has been the reason for the suspension of the exodus during the last few months.

one family. These crowded conditions lead to disease and undermining of health, as well as the breakdown of family privacy and the breeding of domestic troubles.

Among these families there were forty-three instances in which the husband and father had deserted his wife and children; eleven couples were separated; three were unmarried mothers; three were divorced women. In seventy-nine instances the marriage tie was still effective but the strains in family life were very marked.

The statement of Human Service concludes with the warning to Southern Negroes that these conditions indicate the bitter disappointment which has come into the lives of hundreds of negro families that have left "their more stable southern homes for northern industrial centers under the impression that they would find a new El Dorado," and that they should serve with false hope, may be looking forward to the day when they, too, may leave old ties to share in the greater prosperity of the North.

That is a warning from the northern friends of the negro. We present it for what it may be worth to them. In the economic evolution of America this question along with many others will be solved. But it, like other questions, won't be solved by repression, restraint, intimidation, coercion or any other means save that of hard facts of experience.—Rome Tribune.



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# Labor—1924. Migration Movement.

JUN 20 1924

## Two Terrill Negroes Die from Exposure

The morning train Saturday brought the bodies of two Terrill county negroes who had tried their luck in the Northern states, according to the Dawson News. The cause of their deaths, as stated on the coffin boxes was complications after exposure.

The fate of these negroes will probably be a warning to some others who are thinking of leaving the sunshine of Georgia for the snow and blizzards of the North. Word was received in Dawson this week from a negro who is now working in Cleveland, Ohio, asking that all colored people be warned not to go to that state, as there were large numbers without employment and no prospect of the situation improving in the near future.

ATLANTIC CITY N I PRESS  
AUGUST 9, 1924

## Dr. Jones Tells Borden- town Industrial School Chautauqua Bar on Aliens Gave Race Its Biggest Industrial Op- portunity

By R. T. LOCKETT  
1711 Arctic av.

"Restriction of immigration has proved a real God-send to the American Negro," declared Eugene Kinckle Jones, executive secretary of the National Urban League for Social Work among Negroes, in addressing the 9th annual Chautauqua of the Borden-town Industrial school yesterday. Restricted immigration, Dr. Jones went on to declare, has opened up industrial opportunities heretofore consistently denied him, and has assisted materially in the wider dispersion of colored people all over the country.

Dr. Jones led a public discussion, which was part of the Chautauqua program, and which was devoted to the discussion of problems, social and industrial, which have arisen through restriction of foreign immigration and the consequent migration of Negroes into northern states. In a masterly address which lasted the better part of an hour, and which held the close attention of his hearers in a stifling auditorium, Dr. Jones went into a brief sketch of the present industrial situation among Negroes, telling of stu-

veys undertaken by his organization, and summing up the most important results of the migration.

"The migration," stated the speaker, "has exploded many commonly-held theories regarding the Negro. In the first place the Negro has proved that he is not congenitally idle and thriftless. The Urban League has figures gathered from all parts of the north which show that the turnover of Negro labor in the north is actually less than that of foreign labor. Negro workers during and since the war have broken many industrial records for speed and efficiency of production. They have proved that they can stand northern winter, for the death rate of the Negro in the north is less than that in the south. Those plants which have tried the experience of putting Negro foreman in charge of Negro workers have found that there is no let down in discipline or efficiency. The biggest needs of the Negro in the north today are a stronger industrial foundation for the race and more careful preparation in the trade; a wider dispersion of the race over the country; and a larger number of leaders who will assume responsibility, who will speak out loudly for the right, regardless of personal interests, and who will help keep up the race's morals in time of industrial depression and in boom periods. They must teach their people neither to be unduly discouraged in times of unemployment, nor foolishly profligate in times of easy money."

A crowd of about 300 braved the day's sweltering heat to make the trip to Borden-town, and about 150 of the faithful entered the auditorium to listen to the speakers. In the discussion that followed the talk many community leaders from all parts of New Jersey took the floor to express their views. Among those were: W. R. Valentine, principal of the Borden-town school; L. B. Granger, Extension worker there; William Asbury, secretary of the Newark branch of the Urban League and author of "Redder Blood"; Rev. William Smith, Jersey City; Rev. I. W. Harrison, social worker of Orange; Roundtree, of Trenton; Mrs. S. D. William Taylor, executive secretary of the 135th Street Y. M. C. A., New York; J. D. Bowers, of the Orange Y. M. C. A., and Alonzo Ferguson, contractor of Orange.

## Negroes Not Wanted in North

The city authorities of St. Louis are asking Southern newspapers to publish the following resolution, in an effort to stop negroes from going there. They have more negroes now than they need.

Leaders among the colored race in the South should warn their people of the conditions in the North.

The resolution follows.

## Resolution by City Council East Saint Louis, Ill.

WHEREAS, It is reported that in the Southern States, especially in the large negro settlements, that statements have been made and circulated to the effect that there is a demand for labor in the North, at high wages, and in some cases inducements of different kinds have been presented to the negro population, which has caused a large migration of negroes from the South to the North;

WHEREAS, The City of East Saint Louis, Illinois, has and is receiving many of these negroes, and a large number of laborers are now out of employment and appealing for work, with no demand for labor of any kind in this vicinity; and,

WHEREAS, If the exodus of the negro population of the South continues it will cause great suffering and want during the remainder of this year, especially during the winter months, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, By the Council of the City of East St. Louis,

THAT efforts be made to advise the people of the South the true conditions as exist in reference to labor demands and use consistent efforts to offset and prevent any further misrepresentations that induce the negroes to seek the North for employment.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be printed and distributed through the Southern States to advise and offset the former misrepresentations that have been made to its people that has caused the large exodus of negroes.

M. M. STEPHENS, Mayor.

Signed: July 14, 1924.

Not Wanted

25 1924 Northern City.

Forsyth, Ga., July 29.—Mayor R. C. Goolsby has received a letter from the mayor of East St. Louis, Ill., requesting him to enlist the aid of all the white people in this section to join in a movement to keep the negroes out of that section. The Illinois mayor says his city is receiving many of these negroes, and a large number of laborers are now out of employment and appealing for work, with no demand for labor of any kind, and if the exodus of the negroes of the South continues it will cause great suffer-

ing, especially during the winter months.

So serious has the situation become in East St. Louis that a meeting of the mayor and council of that town was held on July 14 and resolutions adopted to advise the entire white citizenry of the South to use all the influence in their power to keep the negroes in the South. The resolutions also claim that misrepresentations are made of the conditions in Illinois to seek that field for labor, and that the high wages and plentiful jobs promised are but a lure to get the negroes there. The resolutions intimate that white labor there is sufficient to take care of work, and that negroes are not wanted at all.

## MISSISSIPPI NEGROES ARE RETURNING HOME

JACKSON, Miss., July 24.—Mississippi negroes who joined the northern exodus ring the last two years are returning to the state in large numbers, according to statements of local railway officials.

Unemployment, it is stated, is driving the negroes homeward, especially the common labor class. The Illinois Central is operating a special coach on the southbound limited passenger train out of Chicago each night for the accommodation of negro passengers headed for points in Mississippi and Louisiana.

JUL 25 1924

The claim among eastern and northern papers is that few negroes ever return south, once they go away and get a good foothold. So far as we are concerned, we are willing for the negro to go to where he can do better for himself. We have a humane interest in his welfare, not an apologetic interest. We would not explain to the north and the east. Let the negro go and hew him out where he may make a living. The north and the east owe him as much room to work and live as the south owes, and when he becomes a country wide citizen, then his problems will become the nation's problems. Certainly, it will lighten the south's problems in negro uplift when he shoulders himself on the north and the east. We want him to go to these sections and we wish him well.—Cordele Dispatch.

## NEGROES WHO GO NORTH THIS YEAR OUT OF LUCK

Migration Not What It Was Last Year;  
Jobs Scarce.

CHICAGO, Aug. 23.—Negro migration from the South to Chicago is starting a new season. A run of nine or ten months, the Chicago Tribune will say tomorrow. Employment agencies report a large part of the present stream is coming from Florida, something new, the movement of the last two or three years having come mainly from Georgia, Mississippi and Alabama, the news story will say.

"But jobs are not pronouncedly abundant, and the agencies report many of them out of work," the Tribune will say.

In a dozen years the negro population has more than trebled, the number here in 1910 being 42,000, and a present conservative estimates place the number at 150,000, the article will say.



# FLOOD OF NEGRO WORKERS FLOWS INTO CHICAGO

CHICAGO ILL. TRIBUNE

AUGUST 24, 1924

Unemployment in Florida

Is the Cause.

BY ARTHUR EVANS.

Negro migration from the south to Chicago is starting up again after a lull of nine or ten months.

Employment agencies report a large part of the present stream is coming from Florida, which is something new, for the movement of the last two or three years has come mainly from Georgia, Mississippi, and Alabama. It is ascribed to the Florida fruit crop, which was some two weeks late in ripening. Usually this crop strikes the northern market when prices are at the peak, but this year it arrived with the Texas, Georgia, Alabama, and Louisiana fruit, and the glut meant low prices for the grower.

The effect was to send many Negroes swarming north in search of jobs, just as the boll weevil and a poor cotton crop helped press Negroes north from the Mississippi delta, the fattest cotton region in the world, last year. But jobs are not pronouncedly abundant, and the agencies report many of them out of work.

See Another Wave in Fall.

Social workers look for another large migration wave if industries enter upon a period of increased activities this fall. Since last October the influx has apparently been slight. It fell off when industry sagged. When unemployment starts, the Negro, in general, being the last man taken on the job, is the first laid off. No jobs, added to the rigors of a northern winter, sent many of them back to their old homes. Many centers of the south reported a return of old labor. For a period of several months more left Chicago than arrived, according to some social investigators.

In the last two or three months many have arrived at the railway stations, but those in closest touch say most of these have been visitors. Conventions have drawn thousands of them here, for Chicago is fast becoming the great Negro convention city, if it is not so already. The National Negro Business league, which has just finished its "silver jubilee" at Wendell Phillips High school, brought in 3,000 delegates, and next month the National Baptist convention is ex-

pected to bring in 3,000 to 5,000 from the south.

Many Families Migrate.

In addition to visitors, however, many of the arrivals during the last two or three weeks have been migrants. Most of them are said to be families rather than single workers. Prospect of a good cotton crop is said to have cut down the movement from Georgia, Mississippi and Alabama, and some of the southern states are seeking ways of retaining their great labor supply with better housing and better schools. But social workers say all indications are that a period of increased industrial employment will see another surge northward of Negroes sent for by relatives and friends who have jobs in prospect for them, as in 1923.

ANSONIA CONN SENTINEL

JULY 18, 1924

WHY NEGROES COME NORTH.

Head of Tuskegee Makes Fair and Sensible Statement.

Nothing could be fairer than the statement by Dr. Robert R. Moton, head of Tuskegee Institute, of the reasons for the great migration of colored people from the south to northern industrial centers and the efforts of southern white people to stop the movement.

The migration has been due, of course, to a combination of conditions, the immediate consideration being the assurance of higher wages in northern cities. Back of that is the long denial of economic, social and legal justice to the colored race in the south, a condition regarded by many southerners as justifiable until the movement of the colored people began to deplete the south's supply of labor.

Dr. Moton concedes that the best sentiment of the south has always deplored and sought to prevent injustice to his race. He is generous enough to recognize that the widespread southern effort to retain the colored population is actuated not wholly by the economic value of its presence, but also by the dictates of human justice.

The south has much to do to establish the colored man in the rights and privileges of American citizenship. So has the north. The south seems recently to have made the more vigorous start in that direction. The colored man gets higher wages by coming north, but many of them back to their old homes. He does not escape injustice. He is still subject to various forms of discrimination and to many forms of exploitation, frequently from the so-called leaders of his own race.

In the north his greatest gain is his chance of education, of learning what equal justice means in its broader sense and how to obtain it.

A season of tremendous industrial activity, they theorize, will mean another step towards the industrialization of the colored labor now in the south. With the bars up against a stream of immigration from Europe to protect the American workmen, industries in the north will draw more and more upon the 8,000,000 Negroes in the southern states to get a labor supply.

Need for Action.

What they are saying is that some sort of action ought to be started in advance to absorb an incoming stream with least trouble. Especially in the problems of housing, neighborhood adjustments, and recreational facilities. In a dozen years the colored population of Chicago will be more than trebled. Back in 1910 Negroes in Chicago numbered 44,000. In 1920 they had increased to 109,485. In 1924 they number at a conservative estimate 150,000. Industrial expansion will mean an increase. For example, some students estimate that if the Calumet region develops into the center of the iron and steel industry, following the abolition of "Pittsburgh plus," it might bring in 30,000 to 50,000 Negroes in the next five years into the South Chicago-Gary mill region alone.

For the most part the incoming Negro labor of the last few years has been absorbed by the steel and iron mills, cement plants, coke ovens, railroads, and construction camps and the stockyards—almost any line, in fact, where common labor has been scarce. More and more, however, the Negro is penetrating skilled industry.

In leather goods, blacksmithing, wheelwrighting, mattress making and some of the electrical lines, they are increasing. They have one field almost to themselves—house-wrecking—and many of them are working as plumbers, brickmasons, and plasterers—down South the Negro is regarded as a "natural born plasterer."

Women Seek Trades.

The women workers in general look for industrial rather than domestic employment. Many of them are in the needlework trades, millinery, dress-making, in the laundries and bakeries and restaurants, and numbers are in the factories which make lamp shades, where they are replacing a type of Russian Jewish workers, who in turn have advanced into garment making.

Much of the population shift and neighborhood changing follows the factory, the tendency of the worker being to live as close to his job as possible, and some social agencies point out Chicago might well be preparing for an increase in its Negro citizenship to perhaps 250,000 or more by 1930.

NEGRO MIGRATION

JUL 27

Dispatches from Jackson, Miss., tell of the return in large numbers of negroes from that state who migrated to the northern industrial centers during the prosperous periods of 1923 when labor agents were advising them of the "bag of gold to be found at the rainbow's end," and intimating that the terminus of the said rainbow would be found in Chicago, Cleveland, Milwaukee, Pittsburgh and other industrial centers.

Dispatches from Chicago quote statements of labor bureau officials to the effect that large numbers of these benighted people have been dismissed from employment recently because

of the curtailments of forces in various industries. One of the railroad companies is operating a special coach out of Chicago each night to bring these negroes back to the land of their nativity where jobs may not be as plentiful as they were when they staged their exodus northward, but where there are white friends who really understand the black man and who are always willing to help him make an honest living, even though circumstances will not justify the payment of such wages as were promised in the northern centers.

We have said before and we reiterate with all emphasis possible that the one real opportunity for the negro is on the farm in the South.—Jackson Sun.

NASHVILLE EVE. TENNESS

JULY 31, 1924

REACTION IN REFERENCE TO THE NEGRO LABOR IN THE NORTH.

To the Editor The Birmingham News:

My prediction that the much demand for colored laborers in the Northern States would certainly have its reaction when the slump in business, causing a closing down of industry, would come.

My prediction of my people leaving the South for the Northern States, and that they would experience a hard shift in securing employment, to my regret has truly come.

It is reported that fifty thousand negro men and women in Chicago alone are out of employment. The majority of these are from the South, where they were doing better when they left than they are today in Chicago. Nothing saved up, high house rent, and other necessities of life much higher there than here, have absorbed all of the high wages. And today these fifty thousand unemployed colored people are said to be drifting around in Chicago on cold charity in a country where sympathy is almost unknown. But it is a cold-blooded business proposition. My opinion is, if these people of my race are to be successful they must learn to use good common sense, and not to give up all they have in a blind hope that they may get something better elsewhere. Here we can at least get something to do at the very dullest of times, to keep soul and body together.

Letters coming from the North to relatives in the South are not written like those were three or four years ago asking their family and friends to come, but warn them not to come now because work is so dull. Many are reaching the city daily, others would come if they were able. My advice would be to our people to make the best of the conditions here, as the late Booker T. Washington and other leaders have said the hope of the negro is in the South.

REV. W. H. HUNT.



Labor - 1924.

## Migration Movement.

JAN 14 1924

### Going Back to Dixie

A conductor on an Illinois Central passenger train traversing Kentucky reported to headquarters last week that he had not collected the tickets, because he had been unable to make his way through the coaches, jammed with passengers.

It was learned that the eager traveling public on this particular train consisted of negroes. Needless to say, recalling that the mercury was having sinking spells far below zero in Chicago, that this train was southbound. A train in any other direction at this season of the year does not concern 'Rastus' at all.

The Northern industrial interests are finding out what every Southerner knows now. When the thermometer gets flirtatious with the freezing point, negroes find their interest in industry sadly diminished. It doesn't make much difference how lucrative a place they may hold, if it means exposure to cold, somebody is apt to organize an individual strike at once.

Even down here where we are brushed only occasionally by the tails of the cold waves as they sweep down to be dissolved in the balmy breezes of the gulf, we rather expect Liza Jane, the cook, and George Washington Lincoln Johnsing, the delivery man, to be late on the job, on a cold morning. If neither comes at all that day, no one is surprised.

We of the South understand the situation thoroughly. These people, originating in torrid Africa, and transplanted to the Sunny South, are "jes nacherly not built for Yankee weather." We know that as soon as the thaw sets in, "the help" will be around ready to resume operations.

The blizzard that put the goose pimples all over the hide of the North last week did more to turn the steps of the children of "Old Black Joe" toward their old home down in Dixie than has all the learned agrument against the social and economic menace of negro migration from the South, that has been voiced in the entire year.

The Northern labor agent has played havoc with the labor supply in some sections of the South. But he failed to tell the emigrants that snow and icicles are Nature's chief articles of decoration in the North during many months of the year. He failed to warn them that housing conditions were poor; that fuel was high and hard to obtain, and that many lines of industry operate intermittently in cold weather.

The white folks down South have been much inconvenienced in places by the emigration of their "help." But they have an influential friend helping to keep the rest of the negroes at home, in the returning wanderer with the message, "It sho am chilly up Nawth."

#### NEGROES COMING BACK.

Robert T. Small, able correspondent for a group of newspapers, has been inquiring into the truth about the reverse order in which the negro-exodus now seems to present itself. He declares:

The negro exodus from the South has been stayed, and a great return movement has begun. There no longer can be any doubt of this. You hear it from the railroad officials and the trainmen, and you see it for yourself on a day's journey through the Southeast.

Mr. Small wrote the dispatch from which the following is taken from Jacksonville, Florida.

Naturally negroes are not coming back

in streams as they went away. Nature there is no organized return movement. But they are betting a nasty retreat from the frozen North—from Chicago where last week mercury fell to 15 degrees below zero.

That sort of weather is not the kind on which a Southern negro thrives.

The more recent migrants to the North particularly have been in distress on account of the rigorous cold; others who have been living North for several years are prepared better to endure the climate. The return movement is the real thing, according to the best sources of information.

Not only did negroes over-estimate their capacity to endure Northern winters, but they failed to foresee the economic conditions in which they have found themselves. They were lied to and misled by paid agents who painted the picture in bright and alluring colors, failing to inform them that the negro finds it difficult to compete with white labor in the North, and is not allowed to work in peace and contentment. They found the cost of living higher than they had been accustomed to. They found sterner discipline than they had been accustomed to. Altogether a large percentage of them must have fared much worse in the industrial cities of the cold country than they were acquainted with back home. Some, however, must have found conditions more to their liking, for they are not expected to return.

Negroes find it harder to finance a return trip than they did the trip out of the South. The chances are that when most of them went away their fares were paid by labor agents. But the labor agent never buys a return ticket. Negroes who are interesting companions for their negro acquaintances in the South. They are going away as best they can. Sometimes negroes are fortunate enough to re-establish relations with white friends in the South and get the money to pay their fare on those who have never been far away home, but most of the time they must rake and scrape the money as best they can.

A conductor of an Illinois Central passenger train traversing Kentucky reported to headquarters last week that he had not collected the tickets because he had been unable to make his way through the coaches, jammed with passengers. It was learned that the eager traveling public on this particular train consisted of negroes. "Needless to say," says the Houston Post, "recalling that the mercury was having sinking spells far below zero in Chicago, that this train was Southbound. A train in any other direction at this season of the

year does not concern 'Rastus' at all."

Continuing its remarks, the Post says:

The Northern industrial interests are finding out what every Southerner knows now. When the thermometer gets flirtatious with the freezing point negroes find their interest in industry sadly diminished. It doesn't make much difference how lucrative a place they may hold, if it means exposure to cold, somebody is apt to organize an individual strike at once.

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Those who return are going to make interesting companions for their negro acquaintances in the South. They are going to talk endlessly about life in the North, and what the returned wanderers have to say is going to have a mighty influence upon those who have never been far away from home.

#### WHERE DEMOCRACY BREAKS DOWN.

The observant Selma Times-Journal declares that "unless there is a complete revision in the attitude of the public toward the business of voting, the three elections that are scheduled to be held in Alabama this year will prove tame affairs." Apathy toward their political duties by those eligible to vote is "widespread and pronounced." County Registrars say that there is practically no response to their importunities that all who are eligible record their names so that they may comply with this condition precedent to voting.



Tax collectors say that politax payments are at the lowest ebb of their experience and that unless there is a general awakening thousands will find themselves stripped of the privilege of suffrage.

The Times-Journal goes on to say:

The records show that this situation is unprecedented, for the heaviest vote is always polled in presidential years. But even in years when the presidency is hotly contested thousands make it a habit to stay away from the polls. They leave their welfare in the hands of those who are inclined to go to the ballot box. The loudest complainers in the land are themselves to blame for the conditions that they bewail because they neglect their political duties.

Indifference to the franchise is universal. It was recently shown that not a single U. S. Senator sits in the Senate by virtue of a majority of the votes of his State. Senator Pittman of Nevada owed his election to 42 per cent of the qualified electors of his State. Senator Copeland of New York was chosen by 25 per cent of the voters and Senator Stevens of Mississippi by seven per cent of those entitled to cast the ballot. The figures are official and undisputed. They constitute a damning indictment of the good citizenship of the country that cannot be sidestepped.

These are unpleasant truths, particularly in view of the emphasis which Americans put upon their democratic pretensions and "aspirations." Indifference to franchise is nothing new, but it is a melancholy commentary upon our pretensions to read that "not a single United States Senator sits in the Senate by virtue of a majority of the voters of his State."

ANNISTON ALA FIVE STAR  
DECEMBER 19, 1923

## Return of the Negroes From The North Becomes Pronounced

Many negroes who left the South hoping to find conditions in the North more satisfactory, are returning to their former Southern homes, thoroughly disillusioned. They are eager to get back after an experience of some months in the cities of the North, where not only did they find themselves in unfriendly surroundings, but where they faced privations and want instead of high wages and prosperity that were promised.

The negroes who are returning are being encouraged, even helped to do so, by several Southern cities, a movement in Memphis resulting this week in bringing 247 negro families in one group back to that part of the South from Northern industrial centers. The negroes returning to the Memphis district filled a large special train that had been provided for them, and other trains doubtless will bring many more former Memphis and Mississippi negroes back to the South.

The Memphis movement is similar to other movements inaugurated in several Southern states to get the negroes out of the North, where they must certainly suffer great hardships and privations this winter. The movement naturally has a two-fold purpose. The negroes are eager to get back and welcome the aid given them to do so, and the South needs the labor of the ne-

groes and pities them in their plight. In addition, the white people of the South realize that the negroes must either be helped to get back or must starve. It really is a humanitarian movement in behalf of the negroes.

The experience of the negroes who have gone North and have found they were lured there by false promises should be a warning to other negroes who may be thinking of leaving Southern communities. Except in rare instances, those negroes who leave the South soon regret having done so. The exceptions, however, are pointed to by those who try to lure the negroes to the North, and nothing is said of the thousands who have failed to prosper in the North.

There is a very decided tendency now on the part of negroes to abandon the idea of seeking better living conditions in Northern cities than they have had in Southern communities, for those who are returning are telling others the truth. The indications are that next year will witness a rush of negroes back to the South. They are happier, live better and are better treated here, and they now are realizing it.

## THE NEW NEGRO EXODUS

A new disciple of the Devil, though claiming to be a preacher of the Gospel of Christ, named Hammond, has succeeded in making a large number of the negroes of Edgfield and Laurens counties believe that Arkansas is the place for them, and after collecting quite a large sum of money from them with which to charter trains, etc., has jumped the track, and cannot be found. It has been ascertained that about 7,000 negroes have enrolled their names for this new field, and paid a registering fee of \$1.00 each. How much of the sum went into Hammond's pocket nobody knows, and in all probability never will. Many of the negroes who were foremost in encouraging this Hammond enterprise and who responded most freely when his hand was extended, have got as far as Atlanta, Ga., and there found out to what extent they would be assisted. Those, who can, are returning, dissatisfied with the manner in which their leader has acted, and are sick of their experience, while the more cautious who never gave their journey independent of the projectors. It seems that the average South Carolina negro will never

learn to act for himself, but will remain a subject to be duped by the itinerant sharper, either white or colored. These cunning thieves go about the country distracting the minds of the negroes, who are frequently found in comfortable circumstances, rob them of their money, and entice them off, to desert their homes, accumulations and friends. They are a disgrace to civilization and every Southern State ought to be ridded of them.

## COMING HOME.

Lynchings have fallen off fifty per cent within the last twelve months.

Emigrated negroes are coming back to the southland by carload and by trainload.

These two factors combined, whether related or not, presage a new era of pre-eminent prosperity for Georgia.

In the first six months of 1923 there were only 14 verified lynchings in the United States as compared with 30 during the same period in 1922, and 33 for 1921. Not that the record is anything to be proud of, except that it shows an improvement over the record of previous years.

There is no excuse for lynch law. The sooner all realize the fact that civilization and progress are only possible where all citizens stand equal in the court room, just that much quicker will the blot of mob law be wiped from the escutcheon of the south. And the sooner the blot is wiped out, the sooner prosperity comes.

Recently in Cincinnati two trainloads of twelve cars each of negroes were in the station there at one time, both bound south.

A train load of negroes headed south stopped a few days ago in the depot in Memphis for a few minutes. Hardly had the wheels stopped turning when the cars were emptied and joyous folk songs of the prodigals told all who would listen that not one of them will ever again leave the south.

## Hegira of Negroes Alarms Arlington

ARLINGTON, Ga., Jan. 9.—Pactically twice as many negroes left this immediate section during 1923 to live in Florida than to go to points in the Northern and Eastern States, according to figures on the sale of tickets given out by O. Powell, ticket agent for the Central of Georgia Railroad.

Ticket sales show that 163 negroes bought tickets for various points in Florida during 1923, as compared with 80 sold to Northern and Eastern States. Many negroes bought local tickets to Albany, Ga., and other junction points, from where they then bought through tickets, that do not show in the figures given out.

Nearly three times as many negroes left during 1923 as did in 1922.

The fact that nearly 350 negroes left in the last two years from out of a radius of not more than 10 miles of Arlington alarms the agricultural interests. It is feared that a lot of farming lands will "lay out" in 1924, due to the drift of the negroes from this country.

JAN 6 - 1924

## 1,700 Negroes Return To Homes in South

Paducah, Ky., Jan. 5.—Scurrying before the chilly advance of the Northern winter, 1,700 negroes passed through Fulton Junction last night enroute to their old homes in Dixie, the vanguard of the army that usually relinquishes Northern jobs in the face of Northern weather. Railroad officials swamped, telephoned from Cairo to Fulton for extra coaches to relieve the congestion. In several of the coaches conductors were unable to wedge in and collect tickets and gave up the effort.



## Labor—1924. Migration Movement.

### Negroes Err In Exodus, Peay Warns Teachers, Voicing Good Wishes

NASHVILLE, Tenn., April 19.—Governor Peay, in addressing the negro school teachers of Tennessee in annual session here this week, urged the negro to remain in Tennessee and to stop the exodus of labor to the large industrial centers. "The negroes are making a great mistake in their exodus to the north and east," he said. "They are going among a strange people who do not know their history and characteristics and who do not understand them and will never treat them as well as do the people of the south."

"The white people have the kindest attitude toward your people in Tennessee," Governor Peay said. "Nowhere will you be so happy and healthful and so useful as in the southland."

He gave figures to show that Tennessee is spending proportionally as much money in the education of negroes and white children, when the scholastic ratios are shown, when he said:

"The scholastic colored population according to the latest report of the state school superintendent, was 144,149. The white population was 625,751. The ratio between the two being .231 and the report shows 5,555 white elementary schools and 1,259 colored elementary schools. The ratio between these being .226 of the population of negroes. We are keeping pace with demand."

"We are providing high schools for the negroes as rapidly as the children qualify. The enrollment in the last school year of negro students in our high schools was 28,096. We were employing 2,307 teachers during the last term."

"The negroes are making great headway in the ownership of property in this state, both urban and rural. According to the last census, negroes were farming 1,523,803 acres of land in Tennessee, valued at \$109,430,180. They owned 535,230 acres, having a value of \$32,199,400, and this land was owned by 9,540 home owners. Your people as tenants were farming 979,252 acres valued at \$76,261,898. You constitute about 16 per cent of the farming population of the state in respect of farm value."

"The negro who remains in Tennessee and becomes the owner of a farm in this state and there rears his family in the sunlight of the fields of beautiful Tennessee, is a better citizen and he is doing far more for his family and his country than if he were making good wages

in some crowded industrial plant of the north and east and housing his family in the crowded and unhealthy tenements of a great city."

**Negroes on Farm Lose 41,228.**  
"There were fewer negroes on Tennessee farms in 1920 by 41,228 than there were in 1910. Some 19,958 had moved to the cities of the state, or the negro population of our cities by birth or influx, had increased in such number. Anyway, there were in 1920, 21,330 fewer negroes in Tennessee, as a whole, than in 1910."

"We further find from the census that 147,104 negroes born in our state were living in 1920 in other states. Chicago in the last decade increased her negro population 148.2 per cent; Detroit, 611.3 per cent; Akron, Ohio, 749.3 per cent. These figures are startling in their significance. They tell us the mighty drain on southern labor."

"The death rate of negroes in the north regularly exceeds the birth rate. In one state of the north, the record is 165 deaths among your people to 100 births. The negroes are doing well in this state. They have a right to be proud of their progress. The records show that there are 111,455 negro homes among us. There are 28,070 home owners and of these 20,778 are wholly free of debt."

"The great foe of the negroes has been tuberculosis. The statistics show this rate to be 249.7 per 1,000 of the population of negroes. We are doing our best to correct this condition. We are planning a great program for the reduction and such eradication as is possible of tuberculosis in this state."

#### DISILLUSIONMENT.



It is an old story, but for the greater contentment of the colored people who have made successful resistance to the enticements of the labor employment agent and have remained in the South, we are giving continuation of some of the experiences of the Southern negro transplanted in the North and West. It was only a few days ago that The Observer told the story of how they are being frozen out by the Chicago landlords through the process of kiting rents. In Buffalo a spirit of hatred has been aroused which is being fanned by the resident negro population, which charges that the recently arrived negroes, by reason of their "low

standards," have brought the race into disrepute. The Buffalo negroes manifest their resentment against their own race by arguing with the white people of Buffalo that the recent importations represent "the scum of the South." One of these, who signs his name as Leo J. Boyd, and who went to Buffalo some years ago, writes a protest to The Evening News, of that city, against "bringing the negro from the South to the North," and lamenting the changed attitude of the Buffalo people since the latter influx. The bitter feeling aroused in that place against the negro population is deplored. Boyd instances that five years ago many liberties were accorded the negroes. "They entered theaters, parks and places of recreation without the slightest signs of ill-feeling against them." On being arrested for a misdemeanor, they were given even more lenient treatment than a white person. "But now," he complains, "on entering a clothing store or a court room, we are condemned as a time-waster or shop lifter and later found guilty of the latter accusation, if not represented by a prominent lawyer." Then Boyd undertakes to explain why the change to hatred. He blames "transportation of negro labor from the South." The colored population may not relish his characterizations, but we are giving these for their information. He explains the manner in which this imported labor is secured. An employment agent, he says—

Will enter a Southern city, we will say at 8 a. m. of any day during the months of April or May. I will wager my head that by noon of that day this employment agent will have from 75 to 100 men at the railroad platform, "bound for the North," as they term it, even if it was for China. These men so gathered are the "scum" of the South. Is it not plain, if a mass of 75 to 100 men can be found within a few minutes' notice and can be ready to travel thousands of miles in such short space of time, that they had no arrangements to make in order to leave, not even to consider if their laundry was done, or to give their employer a day's notice of their quitting—because they had no employer."

Boyd continues, from the selfish standpoint, in contention that the recent inflow of Southern negroes "has hurt the negro who has established himself here in the North as a Citizen of five years past." The Southern negro, he contends, "has been impressed by false ideas about conditions here. He has been told that in the North a negro can mingle with the white people and are invited into their homes; that in a battle in court with a white man he is given preference—and many other fairy tales of the North, some of which are unprintable. And, the worst of it is, these Southern negroes believe these things and come up here under the impression that they are to enjoy greater freedom of action."

But Boyd's particular reason for condemning this "unfair bringing to the North of these men" is that, after working them hard and during long and urgent hours, making them work to the minute, steel takes a drop, and these men are discharged. They are without work, roaming about in the city of Lackawanna until driven out by officers of the law. He is referring particularly to those "who are not wise enough to lay by a few cents so as to have money with which

to go back to their homes in the South, or, at least, to present a clean appearance, which would shunt off the police. But 90 per cent of these men are not that broadminded or wise and they are driven into Buffalo, to make their homes in crap-game and pool rooms and to live like wildcats—which means eat if you catch something, go hungry, if not."

Boyd is not through yet. He continues: "When Winter creeps upon them, being the 'scum' of the South, without one year of schooling, it being a bit too cold to ride the rods back South, they are easily identified throughout Buffalo. No, since they have no knowledge of how to be crooked in the legitimate way, if I may so term it, they resort to grabbing pocketbooks and highwaying or act on the quickest thought that flows through their narrow minds. Does not this reflect a bad impression, unfavorable to all negroes, good or bad?"

Every new story that comes out of the North about the way our Southern negroes are faring goes to sustain the contention of the negro's friends in the South that those who have remained at home have done well, and that they will do better by continuing to remain here.

MAR 17 1924

### Colored Exodus To North Under Way in Richmond

The annual exodus of colored laborers to northern industrial centers is expected to get under way today in Richmond when a local employment agency plans to ship 100 of these laborers to the Carnegie Steel Works in Pennsylvania, it was stated today on the best authority.

A Northern agent is expected in this city to make final arrangements for the shipment, it was said, and other instalments of colored laborers are expected to be sent out from Richmond during the coming weeks. These will go to Youngstown, O.; Pittsburgh, Pa.; Johnstown, Pa., and other centers of the steel industry, according to reliable information.

This shipment marks the opening of the 1924 season for labor shipping to northern points. Richmond serves as one of the main distributing centers for this section, and thousands of laborers were sent out from this city during 1923. These were assembled from all parts of the surrounding territory, about 90 per cent being colored.



# Texas Department of Labor Wakes Up.

To those of us who scan the horizon constantly in search of encouraging signs of an awakening of our white neighbors to the real reason for the exodus of Negro laborers from the South, the recently published report of the Texas Labor Commissioner Joseph S. Meyers concerning the reports of threats to Negro farmers and the mistreatment of Negro share-croppers comes with a high degree of satisfaction. He makes public his findings in an article published elsewhere in this issue and in it takes the position that Texas needs her Negro laborers to the extent that the State Department is interested enough to ask fair treatment for them.

Equally gratifying and in connection with the same report is an editorial in the Dallas Morning News under date of Dec. 26 under caption of "Oppression and Terrorism" in which an extremely broad view is taken of the situation. The editorial is so sound, so sane and so highly encouraging that The Express passes it on to its readers in full. It is as follows:

"The movement of Negroes in large numbers from the Southern to the Northern States has doubtless been due, for the most part, to the attraction of the higher wages that were to be earned in the industrial centers of the North. But that has not been the sole cause. In part, and in larger part than any of us care to think, it has been due to the terrorism and oppression to which the Negroes have been subjected in many communities of the South. This is true of Texas as well as of the South as a whole.

This condition, of which most of us must have been made cognizant by reports which pass by word of mouth, has attained to proportions that have moved the State Labor Commissioner, Mr. Myers, to bring it formally to the attention of the people of Texas. In one section of North Texas, Mr. Myers says, many Negro farmers "have received threatening letters, causing many of them to sell their crops and land at a sacrifice and leave the community." In "an East Texas town," he reports, "many Negro share-croppers, those who are paid for farm work with a share of the crops, have been kept waiting many weeks after they had gathered the crop to receive their pay. Some of these were made to believe that if they pressed their claims they would get into trouble." Sometimes cupidity is the motive in these acts of oppression and terrorism, but often, and perhaps more frequently, it is the racial hatred which has been sedulously fomented by an organized propaganda.

It will be hurtful to the State's reputation, and therefore to its material interests, to have this matter brought into the open forum of discussion, as it is by Mr. Myers' statement. But it will also be hurtful, and vastly more hurtful, to the material interests of Texas to stand silent and supine and allow this malignant spirit to have its way and spread. It is doubtless this last consideration which has constrained Mr. Myers to speak out. His concern is with the economic aspect of the matter, though doubtless he is as sensible as any of us can be to the moral, social and political aspects of it. Already some rural communities have been deprived of labor which is needed for the cultivation of farms, and he foresees the possibility that what is now true of those communities may become true of the State as a whole. And if it should become true, Texas would suffer in an economic way; for let none of us be blinded to the very obvious fact that a considerable percentage of the wealth produced in Texas it is the creation of Negro labor.

The Negro labor of Texas is one of its large assets, and Texas needs all of it.

Of course there are other and more worthy reasons than this for opposing the force of an enlightened public opinion to this spirit of proscription that is manifesting itself sporadically. We can not condone the acts of injustice, brutality and cruelty that it gives rise to, as we do when we remain impassive spectators to them, without incurring some of the moral guilt of those who commit them. But we have reason enough, and one which will probably move us more quickly, in the material consequences that are not unlikely to be visited upon us if we encourage men to commit the cowardly acts of lawlessness reported by Mr. Myers by doing nothing toward the punishment of them. In every county, in every town and community, there is an abundant force of righteous public opinion to put down this lawlessness. It only needs to be bestired. One may hope, and even expect, that it will be, by the restrained warnings which Mr. Myers has voiced."

Certainly Texas as well as her other sister states of the South needs to study to know the facts about the migration as they actually are and to consider them in just such a broad and straight forward way. From such a study it will be discovered that Negroes are leaving the South, only because conditions over which they have no control are forcing them out and that so long as these conditions exist, in spite of the fact that he can almost be considered a part of it by reason of his long residence in it, he will continue to move as a last attempt to improve his condition.

## THE MIGRATORY INSTINCTS OF THE NEGRO.

Much of the vast amount of writing that has been done in reference to the exodus of the negro from the South has been indefinite and without statistical basis, according to an agricultural statistician of the Department of Agriculture, F. W. Gist, of Montgomery, Ala.

Mr. Gist has an interesting article on this subject based upon statistical information and, therefore, perhaps somewhat dryer than many another dissertation on the same subject, but more authentic.

He finds that up until 1910 the movement of the negroes from one State to another or from one section of the country to another was no more active than that of the white man. Between 1910 and 1920, however, he finds that the migration became the more pronounced in the case of the negro.

The negro population, he shows, was 8,717,000 in the Southern States in 1910 and he calculates that the natural increase in the number of births over deaths should have added 610,000 during the following ten years, giving a total population in 1920 of 9,327,000, whereas the census showed that the negro population in this area was only 8,775,000, leaving a net loss because of migra-

tion of 552,000 within the decade. The majority of these negroes left the Southern States, Mr. Gist says, following the World War when, under the lure of great industrial activities in other parts of the country and the higher wage that accompanied that boom, they deserted their Southern habitations and the farms upon which they had been laboring and sought employment in new fields.

He further reports that insistent claims of a heavy migration around the first of 1923 caused the United States Department of Agriculture to order its agents in the Southern States to investigate. The inquiry was made on a percentage basis and the movement was asked for "recent months," instead of for a fixed period. Therefore the returns were not considered to be uniform and capable of exact interpretation.

As nearly as could be calculated into an aggregate number it appeared that about 90,000 negro farm workers left Southern farms for industrial centers in other sections of the country, presumably between the close of harvest in 1922 to the first of April, 1923. A recent writer misquoted the Department's estimate on this subject, quoting the Department as having estimated that 324,000 left Southern farms in 1922. This figure had reference to another investigation, which disclosed the fact that the net loss of farm population in the Southern

States by removal in 1922 was 661,000, of which 324,000 were lost to the South Atlantic States. Of this loss of population (white and black) one-fourth, or about 165,000, were estimated to have been farm workers.

There is nothing new in Mr. Gist's contention as to the cause of this increasingly heavy movement of the negroes away from the South, when he declares that the negro's failure to make a good living on cotton farms coupled with the opportunity offered him for material betterment through industrial occupation is the explanation.

This is basically the reason behind all migrations, no matter what race may be involved. Men move from one section to another with instinctive swiftness when they believe there are better things ahead of them in material advancement, when they can make more money doing something else and at the same time live in a higher state of personal contentment as well as give their families more of the blessings of life.

That has been behind the migration of the negro from the boll weevil fields of the South. They could not make a decent living and they sought the chances which industrial developments brought them from other parts of the country.

## NORTH HOLDING NEGROES.

Letter to Clarksdale C. of C. Shows Drastic Steps Taken.

CLARKSDALE, Miss., March 12.—Evidence that drastic steps are being taken to keep the negroes in the north is to be seen in a letter which has been received here by Secretary H. N. Barbee, of the Coaloma County Chamber of Commerce, which body recently undertook to secure the return of negroes back to the plantations and where numbers of letters to labor agents and agencies in northern cities.

The letter further serves to show the wisdom of the action of the local organization in endeavoring to get white farmers from the hill areas of the state for settlement on the delta plantations. As a result of this effort by the chamber no less than 400 families have been induced to settle in this county.

Extracts from the letter sent by an agent, Frank Kinney, of Chicago, follows:

"I am sorry that what a few weeks ago seemed a certain and easy task, is today impossible of accomplishment. Because of the concerted antagonism among negro leaders, plus the cancellation of my advertisements by negro newspapers, any attempt to secure negroes to return south is highly speculative. The usual propaganda against the Ku Klux Klan and tales of mistreatment have had their effect. This "stirredupness" among the negro colony makes it hazardous for any negro to even contemplate a trip to the cotton fields.

"In view of these unexpected circumstances it is unwise for either of us to expect beneficial results from such a resolute group as that which invades Chicago."



Labor—1924

## Migration Movement.

### ONE OF THE CAUSES FOR MIGRATION

A few days ago Bishop J. C. Martin of the Colored Methodist Episcopal Church was ejected from a train in Arkansas, placed under arrest and forced to pay a fine of twenty-five dollars. Why? Because he was riding in a pullman coach, for which privilege he had paid the stipulated fare. Furthermore, the pullman conductor, who had segregated the Bishop in a drawing room when he saw trouble brewing, was also dealt with summarily. All of this in the face of the fact that such organizations as Inter-racial Commissions, the N. A. A. C. P., the Student Volunteer Movement which placed prime emphasis on adjustment between the races at its recent convention in Indianapolis are at work to ameliorate conditions. In addition it is the desire of many influential persons among Negroes themselves to remain in the South to help work out the grave problems which confront both races.

What will be the net results of such dastardly actions? Unbounded depopulation and improverishment of the Southland, as far as the Negro is concerned, through intensified migration to other sections.

Since the days of the Civil War leadership among Negroes has centered very largely in the ministers of the various churches. Five years ago all of the Bishops of the church with which Bishop Martin is identified, lived in the far south. Within that period of time three out of the total number of ten Bishops have changed their residences as follows: from Memphis to St. Louis; from Atlanta to Chicago; from Nashville to Cleveland. Bishop Martin is a man in the highest office of his group—of reputed wealth and influence. Can he possibly maintain his dignity and self-respect with such indignities heaped upon him as the recent occurrence indicates? We cite him as a typical example. To your tents, O despised, rejected race! How long, O civilization, how long?

## EXODUS OF NEGRO WITHOUT REASON

Dr. Moton, of Tuskegee, Broadcasts Message Over Radio at Auburn Station

AUBURN, ALA., March 15.—Special to The Advertiser.—In an address broadcasted over radio station WMAV this week, Dr. R. R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, declared that there is little reason now for Negroes to leave the South for industrial centers in the North and East. As a reason for this he said "the best sentiment in the South is that the fundamental desires of the black man are assured him and this can be done without violating any of the best traditions of the South and greatly to the advantage of black and white."

Discussing the reasons for the negro exodus which has been in progress

several years, Dr. Moton added: "The large number of negroes who have left the South did so primarily for economic reasons. There has been a greater demand in the North for laborers with much higher wages, and in many instances, I am sure that other factors have entered in to induce these people to leave the South which deep down in their hearts the negro loves. Many who have gone North have not found conditions as they had expected, but in most instances they have gained certain other advantages such as great opportunities for the education of their children and greater civic advantages."

In the same address Dr. Moton discussed agricultural extension work among the negroes of Alabama which is done under the direction of the extension service of the Alabama Polytechnic Institute. Negro supervisors located at Tuskegee supervise this work which is done by local negro agents, men and women, scattered throughout the state.

Another feature of this special negro program broadcasting over station WMAV known as The Birmingham News radiophone of the Alabama Polytechnic Institute was several vocal quartets by the Tuskegee male quartet and two special violin solos. Prof. T. M. Campbell sang a negro lullaby

## MIGRATION WILL RESUME AS SPRING COMES

By GORDON H. SIMPSON

Executive Secretary Urban League of St. Louis

With the passing of frosty winter weather and opening up of spring outdoor work the migration from the South will, from all reliable sources of information, bring to St. Louis an even larger number than in any previous year. From such sources, as the Negro press and southern Urban Leagues come the information that thousands of families are awaiting only for the coming of warmer weather before they take the train North.

Preparations are being made in all of the large northern cities to handle this situation this year in a more intelligent and constructive way than ever before. The Urban Leagues throughout the northern cities are opening up opportunities for the employment of an increasing number of workers. Colored real estate dealers are endeavoring to secure more adequate housing facilities. In practically every large city, school facilities are being taxed to the limit and in a number of cities plans for increasing these facilities are under consideration.

St. Louis is no exception in these regards. The local Urban League is at present working upon plans for a more extensive service by its Industrial Department in the placement of men and women in jobs. The Neighborhood Department plans to promote a more adequate program of helping the migrants become adjusted to city environment. The Free Dental Clinic for colored school children, which is conducted by the Urban League in cooperation with the Hygiene Department of the Board of Education, is rendering larger service to the children. The St. Louis Provident Association, Y. M. C. A. and other social agencies are preparing for the expansion of their services. The ministers of the several churches throughout the city are fully awake to their responsibility and opportunities in connection with the migration. An even closer organization to handle all phases of the migration will be worked out in the next few weeks.

### Employment Conditions

During the winter months there has been considerable unemployment among colored workers in the St. Louis Industrial District. Present indications are that within the next six weeks conditions will be very greatly improved. There is a large Bond Issue improvement program to be carried out this spring and summer; the Missouri State road building program will call for hundreds of workers; several of the railroads plan

extensive improvements in their equipment, road beds and rolling stock; the iron, steel and coke industries will call for thousands of workers and outdoor construction work of many kinds will also need its quota. Prospects are that the St. Louis Industrial District will absorb thousands of new workers during this year. Conditions ought to lead to the employment of colored labor in skilled and semi-skilled capacities more extensively than ever before.

As an indication of the trend of employment, the placement figures of the Urban League Industrial Department during the past five months are given as follows:

	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.
Men	243	172	163	123	145
Women	328	259	219	270	229
Total	571	431	382	393	374

### Housing Situation

The housing situation presents a difficult problem. Practically all of the real estate dealers report an endless number of prospective buyers with an insufficient number of houses for sale. One point ought to be very definitely borne in mind in connection with the turnover of property, namely, that the purchase of a house by a colored person from another colored person which requires an exchange of colored occupants only tends to increase the problem. Some ways and means will have to be devised in the very near future for the opening up of new territories available to colored renters and buyers. The Housing Committee of the Department of Race Relations of the Community Council is at present working on plans along this line.

Another consideration which ought to be borne in mind by all prospective migrants to St. Louis who are in position to buy property, is that if they are in position to locate and purchase a home before arriving in St. Louis, their housing problem will be greatly lessened. There are several reliable colored real estate dealers in the city of St. Louis who specialize in handling property for colored people.

### Suggestions For Migrants Coming to St. Louis

To all those who are planning to come to St. Louis from the South in the next few months the following suggestions are offered: 1. Get in touch with your local friends and relatives in advance for housing yourself and family. 2. Get in touch with the church of your denomination the first Sunday after your arrival in St. Louis. This will help make friends and keep you

in touch with Christian influences.

3. If you do not already have a job when you come to the city, apply to the Urban League Free Employment Office, located at 2329 Market street.

4. Arrange to have your friends or relatives met you at the station and so avoid being lost in the city or falling into the hands of crooks or sharks.

5. As soon as possible after your arrival enroll your children in the nearest public school.

6. If you are forced to live in crowded quarters, take every health precaution you can by seeing to it that your rooms are thoroughly ventilated and windows kept open at night. Live in the open air as much as you can and get at least some outdoor recreation weekly or daily if possible.

7. Read the newspapers, but particularly the Negro weekly newspapers, in order to know what is going on in the city of interest to you.

By following the above suggestions, they will not only become more quickly acclimated to city life, but will help hundreds of others who are coming from the South to St. Louis seeking employment, to do the same.

## FOUNTAIN URGES NEGRO TO REMAIN IN SOUTH, ADDRESS

Conference of Colored Educators of County Well attended Exhibit is Decided Feature of School Work.

Charging his hearers to equip themselves for useful and productive trades and pursuits, and to remain in the Southland where they are known and where conditions are much more favorable than anywhere else, Bishop Wm. A. Fountain of Atlanta, Ga., addressed upwards of 300 colored teachers and members of the Colored Teacher's Association of this county, in their second annual conference at the courthouse here Friday afternoon and evening.



With Prof. C. H. Hudson, president, advantages. We were impressed by presiding, this meeting accomplished the remark one made yesterday. He much along educational lines for the was one of the good negroes. He negroes of Covington county. All brought back with him a few hundred dollars. He said: this was a movement that had wonderful possibilities in promoting better schools for the negro of Covington county, and in spreading to cover this entire section.

The display of handiwork by the various colored schools of the county and the Industrial Women's clubs among the colored people in the grand jury room was a credit to the schools, clubs, and to the Supervisor of Colored Schools, Annie Hudson.

The other feature address of the conference was made yesterday by Prof. G. W. Trenholm, president of the State Normal School for Colored people at Montgomery. His remarks were forcefully presented and well received.

Due to inclement weather several out-of-town speakers were unable to be present, and the attendance Thursday was not what it would otherwise have been, but the conference as a whole was indeed a great success and plans are already under way for a still larger one next year at Andalusia.

## COLORED PEOPLE RETURNING FROM THE NORTH

Every south bound train brings negroes back to Elbert county. Some of these have been gone for a few weeks, some have been gone for a few months, some for a year, and a few of them for two or three years. All of them come back home in no worse fix financially than when they left. Some of them have sent money back home to keep up the family. Some have sent money to pay up bad debts, and some have spent all they made while away, and would have spent more if they could have secured credit. But all who have returned—and we have seen and talked with scores of them—seem to be glad to be back among their white and colored friends.

Most of them realize that any advantage they may enjoy in other sections is more than offset by dis-

advantages. We were impressed by the remark one made yesterday. He was one of the good negroes. He brought back with him a few hundred dollars. He said:

"As I was on the homeward train, and got farther and farther away from the North, the conductor finally passed through the coach, and looking at me as if he had authority, said, 'Look here, nigger, better get back in that other coach.' Then I almost shouted for joy, because I knew I was back in God's country among my friends."—Elberton Star.

**Leaders Against Exodus.**  
Birmingham Age-Herald.  
Leaders of the negro race from more than a hundred counties in Mississippi reported to have started a movement to encourage cooperation between the races, and to assist in checking the exodus of negroes to other states. In so far as these announced purposes are conscientiously carried out, the movement should result in benefits to the communities concerned. It is known that thousands of negroes who left the South within the last few years for industrial centers of the North and East were disappointed at conditions in their new homes. The organization in Mississippi can accomplish something worth while in checking the further exodus of members of their race by enlightening them as to conditions they are likely to find in the North and East, and by spreading trustworthy information coming from those who went away and are now trying to return. If the average negro who is tempted to go North or East were informed of the conditions and experiences of many members of his race who were carried off their feet by alluring promises of economic and social betterments much would be accomplished towards checking further departures.

## NEGRO MIGRATION TURNING BACK SOUTHWARD

The trend of negro migration is turning back southward. For a number of years there was a constant stream of negroes moving northward, drawn by the pictures painted by labor agents. With the turn of the trend southward, cold weather was assigned as the cause. Another reason for the change may be the action taken in some of the Northern sections. L. H. Wood, of New York, president of the National Urban League, one of the larger racial associations, is quoted as saying, in reference to the negroes who have taken up their abode in the north, that "the only logical solution for the negro problem is either intelligent co-opera-

## COMING BACK SOUTH

Robert T. Small, well known newspaper correspondent, writing from Jacksonville, Fla., describes the return of the negro to the southland after bitter experiences in the north and east, where he went to compete with white labor and to face the rigors of a climate to which he was not accustomed. The great return movement, declares Mr. Small, has begun, and while it is somewhat different from the migration northward, which was aided by industrial agents who provided railroad tickets in addition to glowing descriptions of a promised land, it is none the less effective in illustrating the desire of the negroes for their own homeland.

The negroes went north in droves; they are drifting back to twos and threes, but the stream is constant. Thousands have already forsaken the great industrial districts where insufficient homes and bitter cold made their life unbearable. These found that the sunny south, after all, was one that appealed strongly.

As Mr. Small put it, "in the end the migratory movement will not have been without its blessings on both sides." He goes on to say that "the ignorant colored farm hand of the south will have learned there is comparatively little he can do in the north in competition with white labor, and the white people of the south will do much more to make their lot a contented one."—Dawson News.

of the gatling gun." The Urban League has outlined a plan of what it believes to be the proper means of co-operation. Two of the provisions are very enlightening. They are as follows: "Improvement of the type of negro entering industry by discouraging the importation of southern negroes," and "careful watch of the kind of sentiment developed in the various communities."

The south has been accused most frequently of ill-treatment of the negroes, but the threats of gatling guns are not of southern origin. Every effort has been made in the south to secure careful co-operation with the negro people but no one has gone so far as to say co-operation or guns. Neither has the South placed any ban on the movement to and from the negroes. The southern es ald.

ALAMEDA CAL STAR  
MARCH 4, 1924

## ONE RACE PROBLEM

A census monograph, published in 1922, devotes several pages to a study of the migration of the Negroes out of the South into the industrial sections of the North, saying "It is seldom, indeed, that the returns of the Federal census reflect such a wide and general racial movement." In ten years, Mississippi lost a Negro population of 75,000. The Negro population of Chicago increased from 44,103 to 109,458; that of Cleveland from 8448 to 40,838; in New York, from 91,709 to 152,467. Since the census taking in 1920, the migration has accelerated. The ten-year increase in the Negro population of all the United States was 6.5 per cent, the "lowest on record." The next census is likely to show this population practically at a stand-still. After a careful investigation of the subject, Professor Walter F. Wilson declared that "in every one of the Northern states, Negro deaths outnumber births, in the Southern states, in general, the conditions are reversed." But the South, an area or multiplication, has rapidly been deserted.

have endeavored, by legitimate means, to show the negro race that their best place is in the south. Going further, the southern people have not gone out of the way to keep a "careful watch" on the negroes. There is no system of espionage maintained in the south. The negroes are permitted to reside in their communities and as long as they remain law abiding there is never an invasion to determine their acts and beliefs.

The statements of the president of the Urban League may have much to do with the present trend in migration. The colored man has found conditions in the north, not as they were painted by the labor agent but much more harsh than those in the South. Organizations of his own race are beginning to oppose the migration northward and the threats of gatling guns will not take many colored people to the northern industrial centers.—Vicksburg Herald.



Labor - 1924.

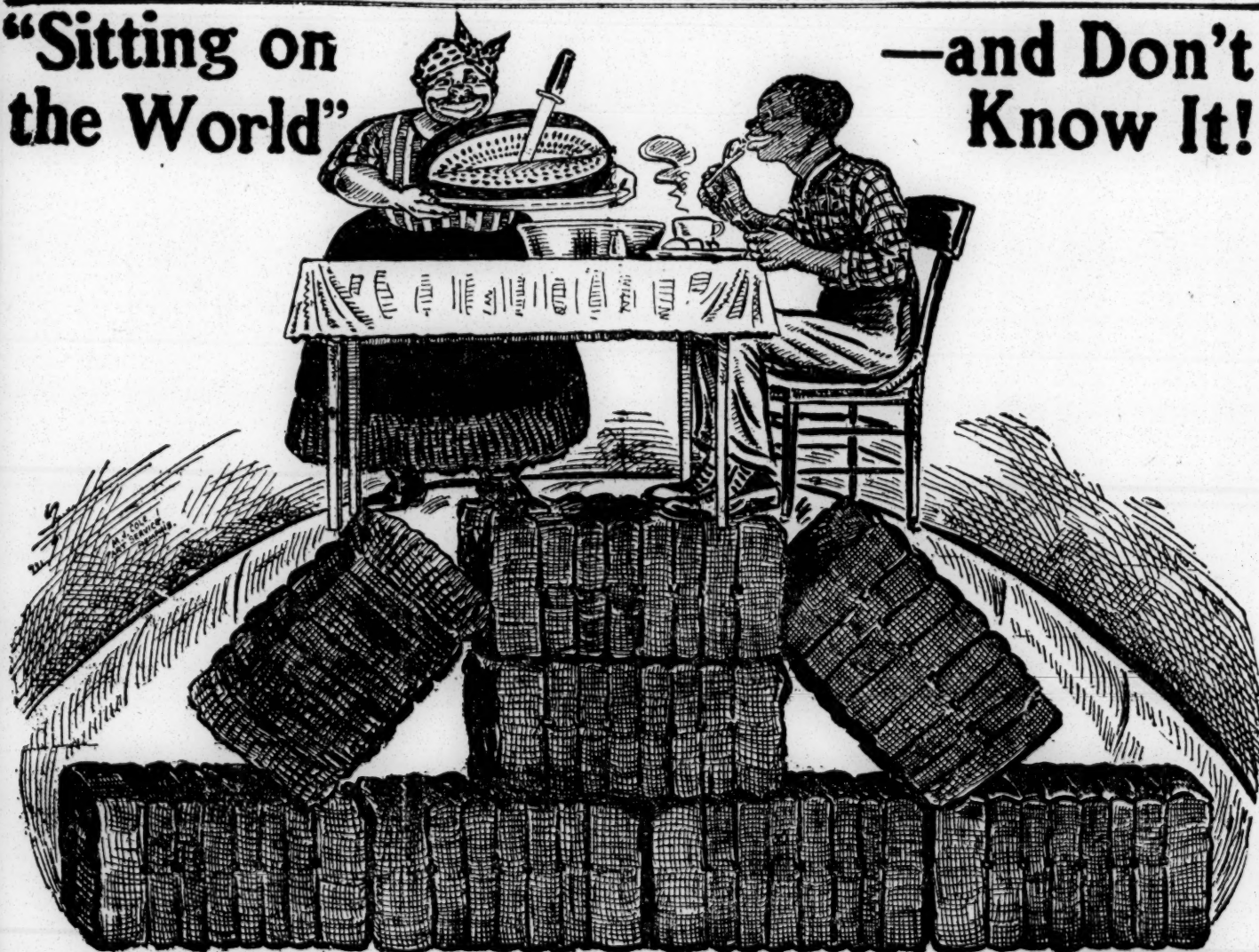
Migration Movement.

## ANOTHER LIE NAILED

THE COMMERCIAL APPEAL, MEMPHIS, SATURDAY MORNING, JUNE 16, 1924.

"Sitting on  
the World"

—and Don't  
Know It!



Take a look at the picture—the cartoon above. It stepped out of the raving imagination of the "artist" of the Commercial Appeal, Memphis' famous newspaper. It was drawn for pay and printed for cash.

"Sitting on Top of the World and Don't Know it," is the caption to the foul, the shameful exhibition of the plan of the corrupt South to hold a people in the damned chains of servitude. It mocks the memory of Lincoln and the swords of Sherman and Grant.

Sitting on cotton raised by black hands, from which oppressive robbers have stolen and still steal the fruits of their tears and labors, two grinning people, ignorant, trusting, hoping when hope herself bids them arise and flee, are pictured as kings of the world.

Change the caption and the picture has truth to explain its meaning. Change it in your minds. Arase "Sitting on Top of the World" and write instead "SITTING ON A POWDER CAN AND DON'T KNOW IT."

FOR TWO HUNDRED YEARS the fathers and mothers of these people, beaten, brutalized, the fathers whipped by day and the mothers raped, prostituted by night, sat on top of COTTON IN DIXIE.

They sat on top of a WORLD OF TERROR. They sat on top of a World of Shame and Despair. There they sat until the free North challenged the God-cursed South to defend its iniquity on a field of arms and blood. The pen of Lincoln, the sword of Grant, the death of Union soldiers, overturned that world and set free those who made it for lazy, drunken, heartless, wretched slave-owners and slave-catchers to enjoy!

Get down off that world. Bid it GOOD-BY. Flee it and come to a NEW WORLD. Come to a WORLD OF MEN AND WOMEN. Come to a World of Education and Liberty. GET DOWN AND LET YOUR OPPRESSORS TAKE YOUR PLACE. See if they know they are sitting on a world.

## ICY BLASTS OF NORTH DRIVE NEGROES SOUTH

Heavy Southward Movement  
Swamps Railroad Offices.

ARE HEADED FOR DIXIE

Many Northern Industrial Plants  
Handicapped by Annual Pilgrimage to South of Negro Laborers.  
Travel Heavy.

The icy blasts that are sweeping over the Great Lakes, and particularly around the city of Chicago, are driving southward hundreds of negroes who left their homes in Dixie for more lucrative jobs in the north and as a result railroad trains and offices are overrun with negroes who are seeking refuge in the more balmy sections of the southland.

A dispatch from Paducah, Ky., yesterday stated that 1,700 negroes passed through Cairo Junction Friday night headed for points in the south, constituting the vanguard of the army that usually relinquishes northern jobs in the face of the severity of northern winter weather.

Railroad officials, particularly those connected with the Illinois Central, admit that travel is unusually heavy from Chicago and other points in the north to Dixieland, most of which consists of negroes bound for their former homes.

Operating officials of the Illinois Central were called upon Friday night for extra equipment to relieve the congestion that existed at Cairo Junction and in many instances, it is said, conductors were unable to wedge themselves into the coaches, so crowded were they with negroes returning south.

### Movement Grows.

R. J. Carmichael, assistant general passenger agent for the Illinois Central at Memphis, who several weeks ago attempted to organize a special movement of negroes from Chicago for Mississippi, has abandoned the idea of moving the negroes in special trains to a definite point, but he

states that the movement of negroes to the south has shown a substantial increase during recent weeks.

Particularly since the advent of real winter weather in the north and in many sections of the south has the travel been extra heavy and officials of the Illinois Central expect the peak to be reached during the coming week, provided the extreme weather conditions prevail.

"Negroes will not stay on their jobs in the north in extremely cold weather," Mr. Carmichael stated. "While there was considerable opposition to an organized movement of negroes from Chicago to the south several weeks ago, there is no influence that can keep them there when the chill north winds begin to whistle across the lakes and the usual winter weather sets in."

### Opposition Great.

"I am convinced that the inducements made to negroes in Chicago recently by the Delta Farms Company are as good as they can find anywhere and every effort was made to attract negroes to the south. The competition, however, was too great and the organized movement had to be abandoned."

"That situation does not preclude, however, an independent movement of negroes, and I feel sure that the present cold wave will result in many negroes now in the north returning to their former homes in the south and also in the movement of an unusually large number of negroes without any preconceived idea of where they are going leaving the Chicago district for points in the south. Upon arrival in the south, if they are unable to find work, they will drift on to other places and will eventually locate on some southern farm for the winter months."

"Whether or not they will remain in the south to make the crops next year is a question that no one can answer. Many plantation owners in the south are offering mighty fine inducements to them and if they do not stay they will be the losers."

## ANXIOUS TO COME HOME.

15,000 Negroes Out of Work in Chicago Alone, Is Estimate.

CHICAGO, Jan. 5.—Intensely cold weather and lack of employment is driving hundreds of negroes back to the south from which they were lured by extravagant promises of big wages, short hours and other concessions in the north. Of the estimated 200,000 negroes in Chicago, it is said, 15,000 are out of employment and anxious to get back to their cabins in the south.

Despite threats of violence and death by political organizations in



their own ranks, if they return to the south, 20 families departed yesterday and plans had been made to send 50 or more families out today. In order to avoid trouble at the leading stations, many of the negroes are going to outlying points to take southern trains.

Officials of the Illinois Central Railroad, working in co-operation with the planters of the south, recently planned to run a special train carrying back families for whom work and cabins had been assured, but agitators went into the black belt and terrorized the people to such an extent that the special train was abandoned. Since that time negroes have been slipping away in small numbers. It is understood that they are being assembled at Cairo and sent to destination from there in special trains.

With the temperature 16 to 22 degrees below zero here and no work, no food and constant demands for rent, it is predicted the exodus of negroes will be heavy during the next few days.

## "COMING BACK TO DIXIE."

Negroes Chant Plantation Songs and Happy to Be Back.

CADUCAH, Ky., Jan. 5.—Chanting and humming Dixie melodies, their eyes gleaming in anticipation, the negroes passed through Western Kentucky last night bound for warmer climes to escape the blasts of old King Winter. The train bearing the vanguard of southern negroes returning home for the winter entered Kentucky from Cairo, Ill., en route to New Orleans via Memphis over the Illinois Central Railroad.

At Cairo, where the Jim Crow law becomes effective on trains entering Kentucky, railroad officials realized that the regular negro coaches on the train were insufficient to care for the passengers and telephoned to Fulton for extra coaches. Some of the coaches were so crowded that conductors found it impossible to even try to collect tickets.

## ZERO WEATHER HAS NO TERRORS FOR WILLIAMS

Marcus Williams, who had just sold a 300-acre farm near Clarksdale, Miss., arrived at the Illinois Central station Saturday, just as the thermometer had struck 16 below zero. With him he brought Mrs. Williams.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Williams were seasonably clad, but neither had brought a super-abundance of winter clothing, as friends had written them of the unusually warm weather in Chicago.

As they passed through the storm doors toward Michigan avenue, they were greeted with a gust of icy wind such as neither had before experienced. "Be careful," warned a porter, "you'll freeze to death."

"I will be careful," replied Williams. "Where is the nearest fur store?"

Leaving his wife in the waiting room, he chartered a taxicab and sped to a fur store a few blocks north on Michigan avenue. In a few minutes he returned. Loungers in the waiting room were surprised to see Mrs. Williams strip her cloth coat and envelope herself in a heavy mink dolman, which covered her from eyes to toes.

"We're from Mississippi and take no chances on zero weather," laughed Williams, as they started for the South Side in another taxicab.

A porter later sweeping the floor found the receipt the southerner had thrown away. "One mink dolman, size 40—\$900.00—paid," read the little scrap of paper.

## MIGRATION PROBLEM

Outstanding Feature of Upper Mississippi Conference. NEW ALBANY, Miss., Jan. 11.—The thirty-fourth session of the Upper Mississippi Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in session here is in full swing. Delegates are arriving on every train. The record for attendance was broken at the first session. Since then trains have brought in additional delegates.

One matter of outstanding importance that is being brought out in the reports is the migration of the negroes from Mississippi to the north. In some communities whole churches have gone and the church houses turned over to the owls and the bats. Bishop Jones does not hesitate to express his disapproval of this movement on the part of his race. So also the preachers seem to be a unit in their desire to change conditions. Bishop Jones gives it as his judgment that it is not desire for social equality, not better wages in the north, but a desire on the part of the negro race to better his economic condition generally and to get a square deal. That when he gets a square deal, sympathetic consideration at the hands of his employer and fair treatment there will not be any need to organize to prevent migration.

The address of welcome of Mayor Bevil, the masterly addresses of Supt. Coulter, Miss Corinne Rogers and Hon. G. L. Jones were roundly applauded and genuinely appreciated. Visitors from the central office in Chicago and Bishop Jones received an eye-opener in the hearty sympathetic attitude of these representative citizens and the sound counsel given. Bishop Jones paid an eloquent tribute to the noble, good women of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South who, like angels of mercy, were helping the women of the colored race to better things and higher lives.

## COMING HOME.

Lynchings have fallen off fifty per cent within the last twelve months.

Emigrated negroes are coming back to the southland by railroad and by trainload.

These two factors combined, whether related or not, presage a new era of pre-eminent prosperity for Georgia.

In the first six months of 1923 there were only 14 verified lynchings in the United States as compared with 30 during the same period in 1922, and 33 for 1921. Not that the record is anything to be proud of, except that it shows an

improvement over the record of previous years.

There is no excuse for lynch law.

The sooner all realize the fact that civilization and progress are only possible where all citizens stand equal in the court room, just that much quicker will the blot of mob law be wiped from the escutcheon of the south. And the sooner the blot is wiped out, the sooner prosperity comes.

Recently in Cincinnati two trainloads of twelve cars each of negroes were in the station there at one time, both bound south.

A train load of negroes headed south stopped a few days ago in the depot in Memphis for a few minutes. Hardly had the wheels stopped turning when the cars were emptied and joyous folk songs of the prodigals told all who would listen that not one of them will ever again leave the south.

## FURTHER SHORTAGE NEGRO LABOR IN BARBOUR COUNTY

Exodus of Negroes Starts Again Through Christmas Visits.

EUFULA, ALA., Jan. 5.—Special to The Advertiser.—The movement of the negroes to northern points continues and the labor problem on the farms is getting to be rather alarming as planting time approaches. There has been some discussion of bringing white immigrant labor to this section to supply the needs on the farm.

Many Eufaula negroes who came back from the north at Christmas returned with their families and also carried back other negroes.

## THE MIGRATION BUBBLE EXPLODES.

On a Saturday afternoon about two weeks ago a close observer asked a friend whether he could see any break in the ranks of the colored people of this community. As a matter of fact, it seemed that the population had increased. They have been blowing in pretty steadily from the North for some time. A few may follow the ducks again next spring, but not many. The great majority of them are making arrangements for the year and express a desire to stay, if possible. We never did, as our readers may remember, take any stock in the wail that the negroes, as a rule,

would quit the South. The North loves the race at a distance. The race soon learns to love the North at a distance. The climate is cold and the people are cold. There never was a happier and friendlier race than the colored. They can burn more lightwood than any people in the world when available in abundance, and less, when scarce and some trouble to get. He is coldblooded and craves a warm and sunny climate. He is emotional and loves his church whether he has one, or six, wives. He says there is little religion up North and nobody shouts on occasion.

He believes in picking his hours for work, and against being rushed beyond the conventional gait. This doesn't suit the Yankee. But for Abe Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation there would be nothing more in common between the negro and the Yankee than there is between the Jap and the native Californian. He is a better citizen in the South. We were reading that brilliant speech of Henry W. Grady the other night again on "The Race Problem" in 1894 before a Boston audience. He showed that 1 negro in every 185 was in jail up North, while in the South only 1 in 446. And Boston is in the country of Gallivan and Tinkham. He said, furthermore, that in the North the

percentage of negro prisoners is six times as great as the whites, while in the South it was four times as great. That the negroes enter a hundred useful trades in the South from which they are barred in the North.

The best medicine in the world for a dissatisfied Southern negro is for him to go North. It has worked like a charm in this flurry.

## SOUTH'S NEGRO LOSS SHOWN IN STATEMENT

### GEORGIA FIGURES ARE HELD TYPICAL

### Exodus of Blacks Is Coupled With Ravages of Boll Weevil in Cotton Belt

(By P. H. McGowan)

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26. — Adong with a statement issued by J. S. Wannamaker, of St. Matthews, S. C., president of the American Cotton association, that estimated losses from the cotton boll weevil for the past thirteen years, ending with 1921, amounted to more than 29,000,000 bales of cotton, came a report from the United States Department of Labor showing the magnitude of negro migration from the south. One state alone, Georgia, is accounted for. The year 1923, the department says, revealed a shortage of 46,674 vacant dwellings, 55,524 plows idle, and the actual labor shortage was 71,000.

Carrying out further Mr. Wannamaker's figures, he showed that in addition to the 29,000,000 bales of cotton devoured by the boll weevil in thirteen years that the number of bales destroyed in 1922 and 1923 amounted, alone, to 10,000,000 bales, making the total aggregate for fifteen years more than 39,000,000 bales.

Coupling these two statements together it is further shown than in 48 per cent of the counties of Georgia the exodus, at the time the figures were secured, was increasing; in eleven it was unchanged, and in forty-one it was falling off. The money loss to Georgia was stated to be \$25,000,000.

It is noted that the 1920 census of the state of Georgia gave a population of 1,250,000 negroes, of whom not less than 500,000 were engaged in some kind of labor. It is estimated that not less than 80,000 left the state between Jan. 1 and July 1, 1923, and it was believed at the time these figures were taken that the number would reach the 100,000 mark before the year ended. It is probable that 100,000 left in 1921 and 1922, the total being about two-fifths of the total number of colored laborers.

While large numbers of negroes are returning to their homes in the south, and while the migration is now slight as compared with a year or two ago, these figures show what has been done in one state. The aggregate for the entire south would probably be tremendous. In spite of this exodus and the ravages of the boll weevil the cotton planters received a high price for their staple, when the market took a turn upward last fall.



Labor - 1924.

Migration Movement.

## ARKANSAS EXODUS FEARED BY FARMERS

Alleges Effort Being Made To  
Carry Cotton Pickers To  
Northern Regions.

Little Rock, Ark., Oct. 17—Officials of the Arkansas Co-Operative Cotton Growers' Association, who have, in the past few years, made an earnest attempt to do what they could to promote better race relations throughout the cotton sections, appear to be greatly alarmed over the new development of unrest among Negroes on account of the glowing reports being circulated among the Negroes about the wonderful prospects in the new cotton regions in northern Missouri and southern Illinois. Apparently an organized effort is being made to induce Arkansas Negroes to migrate to the new cotton-growing sections of Missouri and southern Illinois. It was said yesterday by John D. Eldridge, secretary and general manager of the Arkansas Cotton Growers' Cooperative Association.

"Recent investigation in the vicinity of my own farm at Gregory, Woodruff county, showed that five or six Negro families of that section were preparing to move to Missouri as the result of false representations made by a Negro who formerly lived in that section," said Mr. Eldridge. "I have no doubt that the situation is pretty general over the state. At least one Negro from nearly every section of the state has gone to Missouri or Illinois and my information is that these Negroes are sending back false reports of conditions in an effort to induce other Negroes to move up there.

"Of course no fair-minded person will try to keep the Negro from moving if he can better himself, but I believe that white people of the state should try to inform themselves of the true condition in these new cotton regions and pass this information on to the Negroes.

## A NEW EXODUS FROM ARKANSAS NOW FEARED

## White Cotton Growers Are Alarmed Over Effort To Lure Negroes To New Re- gions Of The North

Preston News Service.

Little Rock, Ark., Oct. 15.—Officials of the Arkansas Cooperative Cotton Growers' Association, who have, in the past few years, made an earnest attempt to do what they could to promote better race relations throughout the cotton section, appear to be greatly alarmed over the new development of unrest among Negroes on account of the glowing reports being circulated among the Negroes about the wonderful prospects in the new cotton regions in northern Missouri. Apparently an organized effort is being made to induce Arkansas Negroes to migrate to the new cotton growing sections of Missouri and southern Illinois, it was said yesterday by John D. Eldridge, secretary and general manager of the Arkansas Cotton Growers' Cooperative Association.

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### Sends Glowing Reports.

"For example, this Negro who went from Gregory to Missouri wrote back saying that Negroes in that section were getting 30 cents for their cotton, that they were receiving \$1.25 per hundred for picking cotton and that the price soon would go to \$2 a hundred. He wrote that yields were around a bale to the acre and that if a Negro family could cultivate from 30 to 40 acres of cotton, the white folks would furnish them with an automobile.

"Of course, such statements were absurd on their face, but I took the trouble to secure from men whom I knew to be reliable information as to prices being paid for cotton and seed in various cotton centers of Missouri.

information that I received as to prices being paid yesterday was as follows:

Charleston, seed cotton, seven to eight cents; lint cotton 20 to 24 cents; seed, \$28 a ton.

"Caruthersville, seed cotton, eight cents; lint, 25c; seed, \$28.

"Madison, seed cotton, eight and one-quarter cents; lint, 25c; seed, \$34.00.

"Sikeston, seed cotton, eight cents; lint, 25c; seed, \$35.

"Personally I doubt very seriously the average Negro will do as well in the new cotton regions as he will in Arkansas, but I am afraid that this movement will become serious unless the white people give the Negroes information as to true conditions in Missouri and southern Illinois."

Associated Press.

Sept. 24, 1924.  
MIGRATIONS

James Bond, writing in the Louisville Courier-Journal, calls the attention of the agricultural and industrial South to the fact that under the old immigration law over a million foreigners came to the United States annually, largely supplying the labor demands about the industrial centers of the North and East. The new immigration laws recently enacted limits the number of foreigners that can be admitted annually to 161,184. This fact creates a natural demand for the Southern Negro to migrate to the industrial centers that heretofore have been supplied by foreign immigration.

While the article in the Courier-Journal does not mention the fact, the rise of industries in Southern States is causing many white farmers and laborers on the farm to seek employment in the towns and cities. The coming of the boll weevil has also aided the movement of country people to town as well as the colored people to Northern industrial centers. All these factors together are creating a serious situation for the farmer. At present prices of his products, he cannot compete with the wages offered in the towns and cities. And too often the country people are lured to town and the colored people are lured North on the prospect of big nominal wages, which are decidedly deceptive. They fail to see clearly that it is not the amount of dollars that counts but the amount of comforts and blessings of life that one can secure.

It is certainly an unfortunate state of affairs when the great source of moral and physical health is depleted. It takes a higher type of development to resist the deteriorating forces of the city than it does the country, and many a person whose associations are the best in the country finds himself, in the city, in a community not nearly so favorable for himself and family

Really, the movement ought to be from city to country, rather than from country to city. And as the South has so much uncultivated and unimproved land and so many natural resources, the movement of population ought to be towards the South rather than away from the South.

However, as The Telegraph stated in the early days of the migration of the Negro to the North, the distribution of the race problem should be in the interest of the white South, the colored South and the whole country. According to the best opinion, the things that The Telegraph said should occur are occurring. A considerable per cent of the colored people who go North are making good not only as unskilled laborers but as semi-skilled and skilled laborers as well. Of course, a large per cent of them come back, but many remain, and the general migration that began some years ago may be expected to continue as long as present conditions exist. There is no need of closing our eyes to facts.

The South is the natural home of the colored people. The Negro, through generations, has adapted himself to live in a warm climate, and the cold hurts him much worse than the heat. It is to his interest to live under sunny skies, and among people whom he has come to understand and who have come to understand him better than any other people can be expected to for some time to come.

Every force here in the South should work to the end that the colored people have justice before the law, and justice and opportunity everywhere in terms of what is essentially best for the Negro as well as what is best for the white people. We want to avoid and must avoid race prejudice and further race corruption. The only way that we can work out civilization in terms of mutual advantage is by avoiding racial corruption and racial hatred. We are attempting one of the most difficult things in history, and if we succeed in working out life conditions favorable to both races, it will be one of the greatest of human achievements. Some of the colored people, like Dubois, feel that we are preparing for a great clash; that the Negro by living his life more and more apart from the white people, is building up pride of race and sensitiveness of feeling that will make his own situation increasingly difficult and tragic, and that will likewise make the situation of the white race increasingly difficult and dangerous. But fortunately there is a leadership among the colored people that is working hard to help the Negro adapt himself to the environment instead of coming in collision with it. And it is also exceedingly fortunate that so many of our white people are giving some of their best thought and effort to enable the colored people to prepare themselves for life in terms of their racial genius as well as racial handicaps.

### Negroes in Rhode Island.

Negro migrants from the South have crowded into Providence, according to Carolinians who have recently visited the Rhode Island capital, and problems of housing, cir-

culational and employment have been receiving the welcome that was extended to the earlier migrants. where in the business places, that the Providence reacts precisely as other native white residents, largely of re-Northern cities have reacted to a Negro European extraction, and therefore free of inherited prejudice, are beginning to exhibit irritation and in cases hostility. Officially no color line exists in Providence and so long as the Negro element was a minority fraction in a polyglot community, inter-racial friction was at the minimum. The city now has, report says, more Negroes than can be accommodated comfortably, so that newcomers are not



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## NEGRO MIGRATION AND ITS CAUSE AND CURE

(Dr. James Bond, in Louisville Courier-Journal.)

Under the old immigration law over a million foreigners came to this country annually, largely supplying the labor demands of the North and East. The new law, enacted since the war, limits the number admitted annually to 161,184, thereby creating in the great industrial centers of the country a labor shortage which must be supplied from some other source. These centers have already turned to the negroes of the South as the logical and most desirable solution to this serious problem and hundreds of thousands in response. It is the testimony of at least eighty per cent of the industrial concerns in the North where the Negro laborer has been tried that he has made good not only in unskilled labor, but in semi-skilled and skilled labor as well. He has proved himself reliable, law-abiding, tractable, good natured and easily handled.

It is reasonable to suppose, therefore that a large part of the labor shortage created by the new immigration law will be provided by the continued and increased migration of the Negro from the South.

What effect this movement will have upon the South is a very vital question, since in the South cotton is still king and the negro up to the present time has been its chief producer. It will be seen readily that the annual withdrawal of seven or eight hundred thousand negro laborers would seriously threaten the South's entire economic system. In many sections serious results are already evident.

The South has been slow to recognize the seriousness of this situation, but there are evidences that forward looking business men and statesmen are becoming concerned about the situation and are studying it carefully. In some quarters intelligent efforts are being made to keep the negro at home by making the conditions of life more favorable for him.

The South is the natural habitat of the negro. He loves her sunny climes, her easy-going methods and her fertile fields. Under favorable conditions it would be practically impossible for labor agents to lure the negro away from his Southern home, but sentiment will hardly be able to hold the negro to a wage of seven dollars a week when seven dollars a day are offered him in Northern centers. In addition the pressure of race prejudice and a sense of insecurity tend powerfully to push him off. He is selling his labor in markets that promise not only a living wage, but also better housing conditions, adequate educational and playground facilities for his children, decent traveling facilities, protection for life and property, and participation in the affairs of the government under which he lives and in defense of which he is called upon to offer his life in times of war.

If the negro could sell his labor in Southern markets upon the above basis and guarantees, backed up by officers of the law and by public sentiment, the North would have to look elsewhere for the millions of laborers demanded to supply its industries. Until he can sell his labor in the South for living wages and with the guarantee of justice and security, we may expect to see in the next quarter of a century a constant and ever-increasing migration.

## REPORT SHOWS NEGROES TOLD STAY IN SOUTH

Thousands of Idle Blacks in

## North Will Become Public Charges During Winter, Reports State.

ATLANTA, Ga.—Several Northern cities are wrestling with the problem of preventing more Southern negroes moving to them under the mistaken impression that work is plentiful and wages good in the North, it was pointed out here today by railroad passenger agents. In most of the cities of the North reports received here state, there are already thousands of idle negroes, most of them recent arrivals from the South and nearly all of them will become public charges during the winter, with inevitable suffering on the part of many.

"For Southern negroes to consider joining the many already in the North an thus aggravating the situation as well as facing almost certain distress and disappointment, is folly," said a well known passenger agent. "Yet evidently some, perhaps many, are planning this when the cotton picking season in the South ends and they have the money for the trip North. The trip back South again, a trip most of them soon will wish to make, will be much more difficult to arrange, for those who go North soon find the promise of work a false one and when their money is exhausted, which is very soon after arrival, they are helpless and powerless to return again to their Southern homes."

Last winter white people in Atlanta and other portions of Georgia contributed generously to bring back a large number of negroes who had gone from the State to Northern cities. The negroes were appealing to their white friends in the state to help to get back home.

### Misled By False Promises.

In other portions of the South are negroes, however, railroad men here pointed out, who still think the "promised land" for the negro is "Up North", where, they have been falsely told, is plenty of work at good wages, and social equality for the negro. The same promises it was shown, were held out to the negroes who went north last year and the year before, and who still are up there, penniless and facing a winter of great suffering.

The Southern negro out of work in the North is in a most desperate situation, according to agricultural leaders here. Down

South he could be out of work and suffering, just as did and still live, it was asserted, those who went North last Fall."

for white people will help him, but in the North he is among strangers who do not understand him and do not sympathize with him in his trouble.

"The best place for the Southern negro is in the South and the sooner he realizes this the better off he will be," said J. J. Brown, Georgia commissioner of agriculture. "Those who go North this Fall will find only disappointment."



Labor - 1924.

## Migration Movement.

### NEGRO MIGRATION ON THE WANE

Thousands of Negroes migrated north and northwest in search for economic betterment and just privileges and rights for which they should not be blamed.

In many sections of the country to which they migrated they were confronted with skilled workers, who were slow to make them welcome; and with whom the new comers were not able to compete.

This fact created a condition that was not pleasant for the vast number of economic seekers, hence condition not desired verily came about which made many of the seekers unstable to the extent that they thought of old home where they could live on less if they did meet with an abridgment along other lines.

This is true: an unstrained worker in the midst of competition naturally becomes restless and migratory, like a bird of the air, looking for the best place to light upon.

It is also a fact that the crowded condition of many who went in search for betterment is not very productive of the best moral growth; congestion is never productive of happiness and social stability; and pressure was so great that many have returned and others would return were they financially able.

There are thousands of others who would strain a point and come to their native home if they were assured that on coming they would not be upbraided by those upon whom they must receive timely help and support; and this being true, the south now has an opportunity to show that those seekers may come and be what they were before leaving for parts unknown to many of them.

A fine lesson may be taken from the manner in which the disappointed prodigal son was received and treated by his kind father; not a word of rebuke, but clothes for the body and a formal reception characterized the return.

The migration is waning and it would wane faster if some things which were withheld would be guaranteed, and if guaranteed it would be better for all concerned and productive of much that is needed in the industrial life of the south where the Negroes have done and can do much to make living more easy and industry more prosperous.

## NEGROES WARNED OF LABOR SHORTAGE

MAYOR GOOLSBY RECEIVES NOTICE FROM ILLINOIS THAT SUFFERING AND WANT WILL FACE NEGROES IN WINTER.

The following statement concerning the immigration of negroes to the North was sent to Mayor Goolsby by

and appealing for work, with no demand for labor of any kind in this vicinity; and,

Whereas, if the exodus of the negro population of the South continues it will cause great suffering and want during the remainder of this year, especially during the winter months; therefore,

Be it resolved by the Council of the City of East St. Louis, that efforts be made to advise the people of the South the true conditions as exist in reference to labor demands, and use consistent efforts to offset and prevent any further misrepresentations that induce the negroes to seek the North for employment.

Be it further resolved, that copies of this resolution be printed and distributed through the Southern states to advise and offset the former misrepresentations that have been made to its people that has caused the large exodus of negroes.

M. M. STEPHENS, Mayor.  
JNO. J. HALLIHAN, Clerk.  
East St. Louis, Ill., July 14, 1924.  
**COLORED LABOR WARNED.**

Reports of Much Work at High Wages in North Denied.

GRENADA, Miss., July 29.—The following resolution, passed July 14 by the city council of East St. Louis, Ill., should be read by every thinking person, both white and colored, in the south and should clearly show to the colored race the folly of "going north to seek employment." The resolution is as follows:

"Whereas, it is reported in the southern states, especially in the large negro settlements, that statements have been made and circulated to the effect that there is a demand for labor in the north at high wages, and in some cases inducements of different kinds have been presented to the negro population, which has caused a large immigration of negroes from the south to the north; and,

"Whereas, the city of East St. Louis has and is receiving many of these negroes, and a large number of laborers are now out of employment and appealing for work, with no demand for labor of any kind in this vicinity; and,

"Whereas, if the exodus of the negro population of the south continues it will cause great suffering and want during the remainder of this year, especially during the winter months; therefore,

"Be it resolved by the council of the city of East St. Louis:

"That efforts be made to advise the people of the south the true conditions as exist in reference to labor demands, and use consistent efforts to offset and prevent any further misrepresentations that induce the negroes to seek the north for employment.

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"Signed July 14, 1924.  
"M. M. STEPHENS, Mayor.  
"Passed July 14, 1924.  
"Recorded July 14, 1924.  
"Attest:  
"JOHN J. HALLIHAN, City Clerk."

## WANT NO MORE MIGRANTS IN E. ST. LOUIS

Mayor, City Council Ask The Southerners To Stay Away

EAST ST. LOUIS, Ill., Aug. 2.—The Mayor and City Council of East St. Louis, Ill., have asked the help of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, in making public that owing to the overcrowded condition of the labor market there, no giving shelter to strangers who more migrants from the South are wanted in that city.

Clarence J. Md. Linn, president of the East St. Louis Branch of the N. A. A. C. P., writes that the colored population there has increased from less than 6,000 in 1914 to nearly 18,000 at present, with little improvement in the housing situation, which forces "scores and scores of houses to furnish homes for eight and ten families under one roof of from five to seven rooms. The leading whites and capital here are friendly and favor the rights of our people, but the sentiment of 1917 engendered by organized labor is yet rumbling under cover. The city officials and real friends fear that the heavy incoming during this dull term may cause a repetition of the memorable 1917 riots and they believe, as do the more thoughtful of our group, that with publicity of industrial and housing conditions in our city, it will, at least for a while, stop the heavy migrating of our southern brothers into fruitless fields."

The East St. Louis branch of the N. A. A. C. P., is now discussing the establishment of a headquarters for the migrants, where they may either be helped to obtain employment and adjust themselves to prevalent conditions, or be assisted to obtain farm employment in St. Clair County.

**ST. LOUIS CITY COUNCIL DISCOURAGES NEGRO EXODUS**

Send Resolution To Mayor Gunter Of Adverse Conditions

Dreams of avarice and golden opportunities that await unskilled labor in the north and west would be discouraged by the city council of St. Louis.

couraged by the city council of St. Louis, who mailed Mayor W. A. Gunter, Jr., a copy of resolutions Monday which would "advise Southerners as to true conditions," in that section.

A part of the resolution follows:

"It is reported that in Southern states, especially in the larger negro settlements, statements have been made and circulated that there is a demand at high wages for negroes in the north."

"This misrepresentation has caused a great number of negroes to come to East St. Louis, which, if it is not stopped, will result in great want and suffering during the remainder of the month."

**HOME FOR THE SOUTHERN MIGRANTS**

Philadelphia, Pa., July 21.—On last Monday the ministers of Philadelphia of the African Methodist Episcopal Church met in Mother Bethel Church to perfect their plans for the continuation of the Richard Allen House. This house was started last winter for the purpose of giving shelter to strangers who came in the city from the South and various parts of the country, who had no homes here. While it is operated by the African Methodist Episcopal church, its doors are open to any stranger coming to the city. If they have friends in the city, these friends are located for them and permanent homes are found. Connected with the Richard Allen House will be an employment and housing service for the aid of the new comers. This is one of the few efforts of the churches in the large cities to help handle the question of migration.

**Negroes Are Urged To Stay in South**

ANNISTON, Ala., July 31.—Mayor J. L. Wike has received a copy of resolutions passed by the City Council of East St. Louis asking that efforts be made to inform negro laborers of the south that there is no demand for colored help in the North and that steps be taken to prevent misrepresentations to negroes in the future regarding the labor situation north of the Mason-Dixon Line.

The resolution charges that statements have been circulated in negro settlements of the South to the effect that there is a demand for negro labor in the North, at high wages and that in some cases inducements of different kinds have been presented in the effort to cause a negro exodus Northward.

If the immigration continues, it will cause great suffering and want, especially during the winter months, the resolution declares.



JULY 24, 1924

**False Propaganda and Negro.**

The story comes to the front again that there is widespread propaganda in the South to induce Negro residents to come to Trenton. According to this report placards have been posted in the railway stations describing Trenton as "The Colored Man's Paradise." Other placards are said to bear pictures of the new Lincoln school, with the words, "See what Trenton, N. J., does for the children of the colored race," or words to that effect.

These stories have never been authenticated. Many of our colored immigrants have declared that they never heard of such a thing and that they were induced to come to Trenton solely by the representations of colored friends in Trenton, Atlantic City, Newark and New York, and elsewhere that Trenton is a good town in which to make a living.

However, the story has been repeated so often that it is now being accepted as fact. It should be investigated by the City Commission or the Chamber of Commerce, to the end that such propaganda, if it exists may be stopped and that those responsible therefor may be called to account.

The posting of such placards may not be specifically unlawful, but it is a pernicious kind of propaganda and would inevitably lead to serious consequence for Trenton if persisted in.

The stories about this propaganda as they go the rounds of Trenton, invariably place the authorship and the responsibility upon some one or more, or group of Trenton manufacturers. For that reason The State Gazette believes it to be a legitimate matter for investigation and action by the Trenton Chamber of Commerce.

There is no disposition here to shut the city's gates against the natural immigration of colored people. But it is easy to see that such might,

be stimulated beyond the bounds of reason by such methods as are reported to be in use. Everybody knows that the colored exodus from the South has been going on for a number of years. Thenton has stood ready to absorb its share of these people, but it can not absorb a flood of immigrants stimulated by false propaganda and false promises. Such methods, if they are being used to induce Southern Negroes to come to Trenton, are unfair both to Trenton and to the people who are thus deluded.

It is a subject that should engage the immediate and earnest attention of all those who have the best interests of Trenton at heart.

TRENTON N. J. ADVERTISER  
AUGUST 24, 1924

**REFUSE WORK TO NEGRO  
MIGRANTS OF ILL REPUTE**

Editor Sunday Times-Advertiser:

Dear Sir—The better class of negroes having agreed with the whites that disorderly migrants from the South are unwelcome visitors to Trenton, the problem of recent date is greatly simplified. Some time ago you suggested editorially that employers could help a lot in keeping out undesirables by a refusal to put them on the pay-roll. That seems like a practical step in the right direction. It is customary in many classes of employment, including house-work, to require that applicants shall be able to produce certificates of good character. Don't the revelations of the past few months justify the same precaution in accepting colored strangers who come to our mills and factories for employment? If this were done, nine-tenths of all the trouble would be avoided.

I have been told that the worst type of southern negroes come North, the better class having no trouble to get along in their old home territory. If this is the case, there is all the more reason to sift them out before accepting them in Trenton. Local manufacturers owe it to their city to protect its good name.

Meanwhile Director of Public Safety La Barre is deserving of praise for vigorous action to keep the peace.

AUG 24 CORDELA  
MISLEADING THE NEGROES

An appeal to all southern cities has been made by Mayor M. M. Stephens of East St. Louis to help clear up the mistaken impression that there is work and high wages in the north and east for the negro. A resolution

has been passed in East St. Louis which should be read by the colored element which is seeking to get out of the south. It might save many from the distressing conditions now caused by a lack of employment in those sections to which the negro is migrating in search of high wages.

The resolution follows:

"WHEREAS, It is reported that in the southern states especially in the large negro settlements, that statements have been made and circulated to the effect that there is a demand for labor in the north, at high wages, and in some cases inducements of different kinds have been presented to the negro population which has caused a large immigration of negroes from the south to the north; and,

"WHEREAS, The City of East St. Louis has and is receiving many of these negroes, and a large number of laborers are now out of employment and appealing for work, with no demand for labor of any kind in this vicinity; and,

"WHEREAS, If the exodus of the negro population of the south continues it will cause great suffering and want during the remainder of this year, especially during the winter months; therefore,

"BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST ST. LOUIS: That efforts be made to advise the people of the south the true conditions as exist in reference to labor demands, and use consistent effort to offset and prevent any further misrepresentations that induce the negroes to seek the North for employment."

**NEGROES IN NORTH  
ARE WITHOUT JOBS**

Albany, Ga., July 29.—(Special.) So pronounced has become the condition of unemployment in the middle west and so serious have some of the cities in that section become by jobless negroes from the south

that the city government of East St. Louis, Ill., has through its mayor and city council, passed a resolution calling attention to this condition. A trouble which comes when large mixed crowds try the same playgrounds. The contact is more dangerous in leisure, in play and amusement than it is at other times and the city gains nothing by trying to avoid the fact that it has a problem.

Attached to the copy of the resolution Mayor Legg received was a reprint story from The East St. Louis Daily Journal, which quoted statistics of the U. S. employment service to show that there are now 2,000 unemployed persons in East St. Louis alone. The newspaper story also stated that similar conditions prevail in other cities in that section. Shutting down mining operations and curtailed activities in the steel industry are ascribed as principal causes of the inactivity, although it is added that there is no demand for farm labor and building trades labor.

The resolution passed by the East St. Louis city council and forwarded to Mayor Legg follows:

Mayor's Office, East St. Louis, Ill.  
Whereas, it is reported that in the southern states, especially in the large negro settlements, that statements have been made and circulated to the effect that there is a demand for labor in the north, at high wages, and in some cases inducements have been presented to the negro population, which has caused a large immigration of negroes from the south to the north, and;

Whereas, the city of East St. Louis has and is receiving many of these negroes, and a large number of laborers are now out of employment and appealing for work, with no demand for labor of any kind in this vicinity; and,

Whereas, if the exodus of the negro population of the south continues it will cause great suffering and want during the remainder of this year, especially during the winter months; therefore,

Be it resolved by the council of the city of East St. Louis, That efforts be made to advise the people of the south of the true conditions in reference to labor demands and recommend the use of consistent efforts to offset and prevent any further misrepresentations that induce negroes to seek the north for employment.

Be it further resolved, that copies of the resolution be printed and distributed through the southern states to advise and offset former misrepresentations that have been made to its people that has caused the exodus of negroes.

(Signed) M. M. STEPHENS, Mayor.  
CHICAGO ILL. TRIBUNE  
AUGUST 22, 1924

**THE COLORED MOVE NORTH**

In a shifting of population many colored citizens are moving to the near north side. Each such shift presents a problem. In work the whites and blacks get along well enough. There aren't many instances of trouble on a job. The question is one of houses and recreation.

Separate recreational facilities as such cannot be proposed, but the fact can be admitted that it is in recreation that the greatest strain is put on the relations of the two races. The worst race disorders the city ever had began with trouble at a bathing beach.

Joint use of bathing beaches is out of the question. It would be inviting trouble. It is equally out of the question for the city realistically to recognize the fact and attempt separation, but it can endeavor to give sections of the city which are occupied by colored population adequate recreational facilities in parks, playgrounds, and pools available for the Negro citizenship.



Labor—1924.

Migration Movement.

# U. S. Agricultural Agents Charged With Efforts To Induce Return of Migrants

Wrote Letters to Welfare Workers in Western Cities  
Asking to Be Put in Touch With Families of Negroes  
Originally From the South That Inducements Might  
Be Made Them to Return.

(By LESTER A. WALTON)

Atlanta, Ga.—That agricultural agents in the employ of the United States Government are using their office to induce Negro migrants to return South, sending communications to different parts of the country on Government stationery and taking advantage of franking privileges accorded them for official business are charges made by prominent Negroes.

R. H. Benton jr., county agent at Winnsboro, La., is one of the accused. Copies of letters purported to have been sent out by him have been made public. Miss Jane Hunter, secretary of the Phyllis Wheatley Home, Cleveland, O., has in her possession letters received from Benton. They are written on paper which reads: "Cooperative Extension Work in Agriculture and Home Economics." The envelopes do not bear stamps.

The first letter Miss Hunter received read:

"We are informed that there are a great many southern-raised Negroes in the Middle Western cities that are not finding work readily and would be glad of an opportunity to come back South and raise cotton. Please put us in touch with, say, one or two hundred families, that we could arrange to bring back to this country. If necessary, we can send a man up there to arrange details, but we would like to know first whether it would be possible to secure the number we will need from any one city. . . ."

Becoming curious to learn more of this "back to the South movement," Miss Hunter answered Benton's letter, which brought forth the following reply:

"It is true that in a great many sections of the South, owing to poor land and heavy boll weevil infestation the Negroes have been forced to leave their homes in order to better themselves. However, this condition is not general over the entire South, as there are many sections of fertile land that are making

as much or more cotton than ever before. This county is located in the rich alluvial lands adjacent to the Mississippi River, and owing to improvements in drainage conditions is just being opened up. We are making more cotton than any other section of Louisiana and all our people here, both white and black, as a general rule are making money out of cotton.

"It is no doubt true that certain organizations favor the Negro migration, as well as several influential white people, but I am sure in my own mind that these people and organizations do not have the best interest of the Negro at heart. . . . On the various plantations here the Negroes are furnished good homes, their children are encouraged to go to school and they are encouraged in maintenance and operation of their own churches. A great many Negroes own their own teams and farming implements. A few of them own land and several of them own cars. What they have they have made by producing cotton on the share system with the white landlord.

"We are of the opinion that moving these people back home is doing them good, as well as our landlords here."

## Florida Heaviest Loser As Shown By Department Of Labor Report

Washington, April 20.—Negro migration from 13 Southern States reached a total of 478,700 in the year ended September 1, 1923, according to data just compiled by the Department of Labor. The conclusion as drawn from figures furnished by State, municipal and civic statisticians and officials. 4-23-24

This migration, according to the department, represented 5.7 per cent. of the Negro population of the 13 States. Florida experienced the largest migration, 27.3 per cent. of its Negro population have gone North. Ten per cent. departed from Alabama and 10 per cent. from Georgia. The percentage of Negro population migrating from the other Southern States is given as: Arkansas, 1.1; Kentucky, 1.1; Louisiana, 2.1; Mississippi, 8.8; North Carolina, 3.3; Oklahoma, 0.7; South Carolina, 2.9; Tennessee, 2.2; Texas, 0.3, and Virginia, 1.4.

### Due Only Partly To Boll Weevil

These figures seem to show that while the boll weevil may have played an important part in causing the migration, as has been held to be the case in Georgia, this is by no means wholly responsible, since proportionately the migration is as large from non-cotton raising States as from those in which the weevil's depredations are changing the whole agricultural program, the department says.

Among the cotton-raising States, Georgia shows a larger proportionate migration than Mississippi and a much larger one than Louisiana or either of the Carolinas. The relatively small migration from Texas and Oklahoma, the department points out may have some connection with the long and the troublesome journey involved.

The exodus of negro labor will have the effect of making Georgia more of a white man's state. The big farms must be cut up and there will follow more small home owners. More small farms, owned and operated by intelligent, ambitious, law-abiding, law-respecting white citizens, will make Georgia great.

INCOLN ILL STAR

MARCH 12, 1924

## NEGRO MIGRATION FROM SOUTH DUE TO BOLL WEEVIL

Dr. W. W. Alexander of Atlanta, Ga., was in Decatur to speak at the Student Volunteer council, preached in the Congregational church. He gave a very comprehensive statement of the negro migrations, stating that the migration, to a great extent, was due to the the destruction by the boll weevil.

Dr. Alexander said that in Georgia alone, 30,000 farms are abandoned. He made the statement that slavery fostered feeble-mindedness and went on to say that no group in America is more ambitious to learn and achieve than the negro boys and girls, who sacrifice to make this possible. At the close he made an appeal to his audience for a wise and sane treatment of the negro and the negro problem.

### FIGHTS LABOR EXODUS.

Hal M. Stanley, Commissioner of Labor, is waging a fight against the indiscriminate transportation of labor from Georgia to other states. He has obtained rulings from the Attorney General which interpret recent state laws to mean that the Commissioner of Labor has authority to demand bonds and to throw other safeguards around the labor of the state. He is devoting much

of his time in preventing big corporations from taking labor out of Georgia without complying with the laws of the state. In discussing the situation Mr. Stanley said:

"Consistently and persistently corporations have made every effort to take labor from the state, particularly to Alabama, Tennessee and North Carolina. There is a great scarcity of farm labor in Georgia and I shall not by any act of mine permit any additional labor to be carried from Georgia. If any is secured it will be over my protest and after I have exhausted every possible means to prevent it. Of course, any person has a right to leave the state of his own accord. We can and will, however, prevent any one from enticing labor to leave in violation of the law. It is my duty to protect the people of Georgia from ruthless labor disturbances and I am going to exert such a policy so long as I am in office."



# THE EFFECTS OF THE MIGRATION AS THEY NOW APPEAR

The migration has caused many and varied comments but none we think as timely and fitting as these which we herewith reproduce from the pen of the Cameraman of the Preston News Service. He feels that the effects of the migration have been felt equally by the North and the South. And he summarizes them as follows:

1. Better police power in the South.
2. Silent southern votes become active northern votes.
3. Stimulated installation of farm machinery in the South.
4. Decrease in progeny mulattoes in the South.
6. Reduced industrial efficiency in the South.
7. Improved housing conditions in the South.
8. Better civil government in the South.
9. Intra-racial misunderstanding in the North.
10. Installation, in the North, of some southern social customs. *Dallas Express*
11. Increased interracial strife in urban cities, North.
12. Increased inclusion of Negro workers in northern industries. *5-3-24*
13. Eventual complete unionization of Negro labor.
14. Improved Negro youth in educational attainments.
15. State and national legislation beneficial to Negroes.
16. Fuller representation in northern legislation.
17. Greater economic advancement, North and South, among Negroes.
18. Greater utilization of Negro professional class, North and South.
19. Unfavorable housing conditions in North.
20. Decrease in Negro birth rate.

There may be those who will feel justified in disagreeing with these findings but even though they are open to the greatest amount of argument, they certainly are to be confidently expected in the movement of so many of our people to new fields.

Some of them may be considered as fortunate and some of them may be considered as unfortunate but they are all natural outcomes of the movement.

Taken as a whole however they are seemingly provocative of a generally better condition for the whole group, and in the consideration of them it cannot be argued that the migration has been a thing to be wholly deplored.

## Andrew Stevens Addresses Spirited "Protest Letter" To Writer for World's Work

At the urgent request of his many friends who feel that he has been the victim of cruel and unfavorable comment due to being misquoted by Rollin Lynde Hartt, in World's Work. Mr. Andrew Stevens, banker

enough of my interview with you concerning the migration of the Negro to make me appear in a false light. You have taken two points in our talk and neglected to elaborate on them. You have used a text without a context. Therein you have been very unjust to me.

While I did say that there was not room enough in the north for the tremendous army of migrants, I also amplified it by attempting to explain to you that the housing conditions in Philadelphia and elsewhere were very acute. I told you that try as we might we could not find houses to shelter the people here. I said that, in some sections of the city, twenty and thirty persons were living in six room houses.

The population of our group in Philadelphia increased from 90,000 in 1917 to 103,000 in 1923. No new living areas have been opened up for them in that period. You should readily see that such conditions not only affect the physical welfare of the people but also tend to lower their standards of morality.

I told you that we welcome these migrants and that we want them here where they may enjoy freedom from peonage, lynching, discrimination and worse evils.

Now the statement that they cannot stand the climate. If you will recall, the winters have been unusually severe and trying to those of us who have always lived in the north. What must conditions like these be to people who have a low temperature of sixty in their Southern homes while we are encountering blizzards and zero weather? They must become acclimated. They must be taught to prepare and to dress for this radically different atmosphere. Physicians have assured me that the migrant is unusually susceptible to pneumonia and kindred pulmonary diseases.

In justice to me and to keep your series of articles free from any misstatements I hope that you will correct the utterly false impression which you have conveyed to your readers regarding my attitude in this matter.

Yours truly,  
Andrew Stevens.

### TELLS NEGRO TO STAY

Not So Well Off in the North,

#### Bishop Lee Says

"It is best for the negro to stay here and fight it out after all. He knows the white man of the South and the Southern white man knows him. The negro's employment in the North is periodic. It is not substantial. When the mill's and

factories shut down he is compelled to come back home where probably he has lost hold of what he once had on the old farm where he had a friend. I am afraid, should a crisis come, he would not be able to save himself because no one knows him. He is not even known by his employer. The white people of the South will have no use for land if the negro continues to migrate. If they sell it to Northern white people they will bring the same negro back here to work it. Some preachers should teach the negro more how to live on the earth than how to run away on it."

The foregoing remarks were made by Bishop W. L. Lee, of Brooklyn, official head of the Fifth Episcopal District of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church at the morning service in the Cannon Street A. M. E. Zion Church, Sunday. Bishop Lee was heard by a large audience. For thirty-five minutes the bishop preached from the text, "What is man that thou art mindful of him." He was heard with close attention by his hearers. His remarks on the negro question were made after the sermon.

Bishop Lee has left Charleston for Lancaster, where he will preside over the mid-year council of two of his conferences in the State preparatory to the opening of the general conference in Indianapolis, the first Monday in May.

*Boston, Mass.*  
*Monitor*  
*MAY - 7 1924*

### The Negro Migrant

NEGRO migration "is not only an economic blow at the South and an economic blessing to the migrant," writes Rollin Lynde Hart in the World's Work, "it is uplifting the migrant, educating him, giving him ambition. The Negro whose acquaintance with mules and cotton was his sole asset has a chance to become a skilled laborer. His children put on shoes. Instead of going to school three months in the year, they go nine months, and to a much better school. Besides, there is 'freedom'—a wretched enough substitute for actual freedom, but nevertheless exhilarating. . . . It is a great thing for the migrant, this migration, and for the northern Negro as well. Until the migration set in, northern Negroes thought principally of themselves. Now they think principally of their less fortunate brethren. To bring them north, to teach them, to civilize and uplift them, is their ambition."

*Not for publication*



Labor-1924.  
Migration Movement.

# NEGROES READY TO LEAVE NORTH; EXODUS BEGINNING

Private Advices Say Return  
Movement Is Planned To  
Start At Once.

EMPLOYMENT SERVICE  
TO BE VERY CAREFUL

Floating Element Won't Be  
Encouraged To Stop Here.  
Says J. A. Porter.

Officials in charge of the Knoxville office of the United States employment service have received private advices that an exodus of negro laborers from northern states is expected to begin in a short time. It is predicted that the negroes wending their way back to southern states will probably reach Knoxville about January 1.

The writer of a private letter telling of conditions in the north said many of the negroes could not show papers vouching for their requirements for good citizenship. Only 14 out of 400 negroes had papers showing they were lawabiding citizens, the writer said.

Negroes were heard to remark that they would return to Knoxville, Tenn., where no attention was given the subject. A Tennessean speaking in behalf of the good name of Knoxville has asked the bureau to make the returning negroes show that they are good citizens before they are furnished employment. The writer said he feared that burglars and many criminals would be brought south by the flood of negroes turning from the industrial centers of the north.

Hundreds of the negroes now in the north formerly lived in states south of Tennessee. J. A. Porter, in charge of the employment office in this city, said he would not encour-

age the employment of the floating element from the north, unless they are able to show that they are good workmen and can give service that will be valuable to the community. In the event they have bad records no encouragement will be given them in the way of offering them work that would enable them to remain in the city.

The informant, who has made a study of the conditions in Cleveland and elsewhere asks the local employment office to "not allow the negroes to use the employment office and the city of Knoxville as a drift station. Let each state keep its own products" the letter said. He concluded by saying the south and the city of Knoxville needed better citizens than the laborers who are being run back from the north.

Further than the communication from an individual, the officials of the employment office have received no advices on the reported movement that is headed this way for the early days of 1924.

The officials at the employment offices realize that a great amount of work will be started in this city and section early in the new year, requiring hundreds of laborers. However, efforts will be made to secure workers in this city and section and to employ good citizens from other sections. The floating element will not be encouraged to stop here, it is said, if they are of a lawless class that would cause disturbances and unrest.

It is definitely stated in the communication that the men not wanted in northern districts are planning to lodge in Knoxville on their way south. This does not mean that the places will be open for receiving them early in January and it is probable they will continue moving southward.

In the spring season, it is predicted, the Southern Railway will open improvement plans in Knoxville and vicinity and this will require the employment of large numbers of laborers. It is reported rather early to calculate on railroad jobs and nothing in the way of a project seems ready for receiving the men said to be planning to flood this city in the near future. This city's industries have been drawing many workers of the best class from the nearby territory, it is said.

## EDITORIALS FROM THE NATIONAL PRESS

### White Settlers for the South.

New Orleans Times-Picayune: From the beginning of the negro migration northward it has been evident that the movement, despite its temporary disadvantage, might be turned to the ultimate benefit of the South. This newspaper repeatedly has urged an organized search for white settlers of desirable type to take the places of the negroes leaving our agricultural lands. It has suggested that terms sufficiently liberal and fair to attract such settlers would prove mutually advantageous, and that no other kind of terms would attract settlers of the right type in sufficient number or prove of permanent benefit.

Organized efforts to that end are now under way in various sections of the South. The Southern Alluvial Land Association is seeking the co-operation of Washington authorities in working out a plan of "selective immigration," under which it is hoped to bring in agricultural immigrants of assured desirability, for permanent settlement upon Southern farms. While this ambitious program is under consideration, local organizations here and there are at work with more modest settlement projects.

The arrival of an "advanced guard" of Canadian farmers was recently reported from a South Mississippi county. Our own St. Tammany parish has entertained a party of Canadian prospectors and is hopeful of results in terms of new and highly desirable settlers. Word came from Laurel, Miss., last week that its Chamber of Commerce is backing a project for colonization of 500 thrifty farm families—North Europeans, who already have been "Americanized"—upon farm lands near that city. Twenty-five farms, it is added, already have been prepared for their occupancy.

During the next few years dozens of similar projects should be and doubtless will be launched. If these succeed—and there is excellent reason to believe that they will wherever sound organization is followed up by fair treatment of the newcomers—the movement of desirable white settlers this way will gather headway and before long will march under its own power.

Greensboro, N. C., News

## GEORGIA NEGROES TO GROW CATAWBA CROPS

Migration From Empire State  
to Hickory Section Stimulated By Good Cotton.

### BIG ACREAGE FORECAST

(Special to Daily News.)

Hickory, Jan. 4.—Migration of Georgia negroes has extended as far north as Hickory. Several families of cotton farmers from the Empire state have come to Hickory to take charge of farms in this section and will plant large cotton crops in the spring.

Fred A. Abernethy, local livestock dealer and landowner, obtained the Georgia darkies to grow cotton for him. At prevailing prices, he estimates that he can make three times as much growing cotton as he can corn, and is ready to take a fling this year.

A. Alex Shuford, secretary-treasurer of the Shuford mills, expressed the opinion today that cotton would remain around the 35-cent level, and ventured the suggestion that Catawba, Burke and Caldwell county farmers would do well financially by increasing their acreage. Mr. Shuford, like others who have studied the situation, believes production will be less in the southern states this year, and that some of the deficiency must be made up in that part of the country where the weevil has done least damage.

It had been predicted that Catawba farmers would double their acreage, but it is now believed they will plant three times as much as they planted last season. The crop last year was far larger than ever before.

Hickory banks and bankers express confidence in business conditions during the present year, although a President and Congress are to be elected. In his immediate section much construction work is to be done, and the demand for labor will exceed the supply. The bad weather for the past few days has halted outdoor work hereabouts, but it was expected to be resumed at once.

### THE NEW MIGRANT

Migration to the north is still going on, though not quite so noticeable as at this time last year. Hundreds of Negroes have left this section of the country for the great industrial centers of the north, since the arrival of warm weather and hundreds more are planning to go before the cold months set in.

The exodus of today, however, is not that of the past three years. It is quite a different kind. It is not that of the curious, near-sighted Negro laborer who is attracted by a free trip north by labor agents who ship them off by train load lots, but rather that of the substantial "assetized" Negro who, in an unostentatious manner, is going away on his own hooks to try his hand among the hard and old peoples of our northern centers. He is going prepared, with experience and with a knowledge of what the fight for existence up there means. It is the exodus of the Negro who is not looking for anything other than that which he deserves and feels that he has prepared himself for just such knocks as he will get. In the main, this is the class that is going now, together with the dependents of those Negroes who have already gone there and made good.

A few days ago three Negroes who might be called "successes" here or anywhere else, so far as that is concerned, took leave for the north. One had, the day previous to his departure, withdrawn a little more than a thousand dollars with which to start him off on his pilgrimage. The second and third carried in their pockets checks of similar amounts. They went to try their luck among the strangers of the north. These men were among the "assetized" Negro citizens of Savannah and will be assets to any community in which they may land. They were hard, honest working men who saved their earnings. They learned the lesson of thrift here and will follow lines of thrift and economy wherever they go. Luck—hard work and careful living—is bound to reward them in the north as it has here, provided, of course, good health follows them, and they will soon make good and their families will shortly follow them.

These are, by no means, isolated cases, in fact, they represent very largely, the element of Negroes who are migrating north today—the thrifty class. Why are they going? Have they not been a success here and elsewhere in the southland? Beyond a shadow of a doubt they would be so considered. But they have reached that stage where they feel that they can venture out with a certain degree of assured success and are now willing and ready to make the move for the benefit of those for whom they have been working and for whom they will continue to labor, though in other fields yet untried by them but in which they have utmost confidence of suc-



cess. They have been yearning for more privilege, better education for their children, better treatment for their women folk and for themselves, better and higher compensation for their labor and more justice and equity in the courts of law—that thing, call it privilege or any thing you may, which makes life worth living to every man both white and black.

This class of migrant is going to be missed, surely missed, if the exodus keeps up at its present rate. Assets of this kind, whether white or black, always leave their string of regret whenever and wherever they leave. But until there is a change and more justice is accorded the Negro in the south from an economic, civic, educational and political standpoint, there will be no means of stopping this outflow of desirable black citizens to the north. Their hearts are full: they want freedom, they want those rights, privileges and common courtesies every intelligent man longs for. They have been yearning for these things for years and are willing to pay the price to get them, so they are leaving.

## LANDLORDS OF ARKANSAS ARE TOLD TO REFORM

Influence Being Exerted to Induce Race Labor to Return to the Farms of the South.

Little Rock, Ark., June 13.—(P. N. S.): Arkansas landlords must change the present operating system or continue to lose the Negro tenant farmer and laborer, according to a report submitted to T. A. Wilson, commissioner, by a Negro farm agent, graduate of Tuskegee Institute, employed to influence Negroes to return to the farms. 6-14-24

"Once the Negro has moved to the city, or gone north, there is little hope of having him return to the farm," the agent reported after several weeks' thorough investigation among those who have migrated to the city.

The agent recommends substitution of cash for the present credit system; education to raise food and feed stuffs in addition to cotton; encouragement of home ownership; elimination of overcharging; good churches and schools;

vigorous restrictions of crime and immorality, and better homes.

The agent said, despite high wages received in Northern industrial centers, the Negro is dissatisfied with crowded conditions. The agent also stated that the Negro did not leave the farms of the South willingly. The Negro farmer is often overcharged for what he buys, and underpaid for what he sells. In his report to Mr. Wilson the agent tells of numerous complaints. No Negro canvassed made complaint of assault or threats by white men, he said.

Before the employment of the Negro agent, the Labor Department made an effort to persuade the surplus Negro labor in the larger cities to move to the farm. The idle Negroes gave little attention, according to Mr. Wilson, and the plan of having a Negro work among them was adopted.

The unemployed were given the opportunity of visiting prospective farms without cost. More than 500 were interviewed, but only 47 indicated that they cared to return to the farms. Many families were induced to return to farming by private agents of the large planters. Frequently the families refused to return, though the men were persuaded, according to the agent. The Negro women received little or nothing for their hard work on the farm, while in the city they get pay for their labor and the children the opportunity of attending schools.

NEW YORK CITY WORLD  
MARCH 30, 1924

### Negro Migration.

New York City must face the dilemma of a population of a quarter of a million of Southern Negroes or of the same number of white workers from Eastern or Southeastern Europe, according to an editorial in the New York Evening Post on statistical reports on Negro migration to the North. The writer emphasized the fact that it is scientifically proved that by shutting off foreign immigration an influx from our agricultural districts to the industrial centres of the North is made necessary and inevitable. This journalistic discovery is of special interest to students of immigration, as it exactly agrees with the thesis which Dr. Isaac Hourwich elaborated in his authoritative study, "Immigration and Labor," written a dozen years ago and recently republished by B. W. Huebsch, with additions and revisions which bring the work up to date in its citation of sociological data.

PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER  
JUNE 10, 1924

THE UNION.

(Copyright, 1924.)

## NEGRO MIGRATION FROM SOUTH CEASES

Employment Eases as Workers Flock Here From Bituminous Coal Mines

Employment has eased off in Philadelphia; there has been a let-down in work in many lines. Negro migration from the South has ceased. There has been an influx of workers from the soft coal fields, yet Philadelphia business men are optimistic over the general business situation and look for better conditions within a few months.

These are views expressed yesterday before the Industrial Relations Committee of the Chamber of Commerce.

Kenneth M. Coolbaugh, State employment representative of Eastern Pennsylvania, detailed the general employment conditions in Philadelphia and pointed out that many of the leading lines of industry showed no recession in employment.

Employment managers including those of the Pennsylvania Railroad, Atlantic Refining Company, United Gas Improvement Company and Philadelphia Electric Company took part in the discussion.

The fact was disclosed that whereas a short time ago negroes were arriving from the South at the rate of five hundred a day, this migration has stopped. The let-down in the soft coal fields, however, is sending many laborers to this city seeking work.

There has been a falling-off in demand for bricklayers, tile setters, plasterers and in some other lines of the building trades, with a let-down also in the textile business and some lines of the metals industry.

## THE NEGRO MIGRATION

The Negro migration of the past eight years, while it may be considered as one movement, has two important phases; that of 1916-1920 and that of 1921-1924. The first of these really began in 1915, reached its maximum in 1917, and continued at a decreasing rate up to 1920 when, because of the economic depression, it almost ceased. Estimates made at the time of the number of Negroes who went north ranged from 150,000 to 1,000,000. The 1920 census showed, however, that, in spite of the great movement of Negroes northward during the previous four years, the number of Negroes

from the South living in the North had increased in the decade 1916-1920 by only 330,260.

Estimates of the number who have migrated in the past three years vary from 100,000 to 400,000. It is very probable that if a census were taken this year it would show that there are probably not 250,000 more Negroes from the South living in the North and West than there were in 1920. As a matter of fact, many Negroes who went North in 1922-1924 were persons who had already been North and had returned to the South during the economic depression. It is probable that during the past ten years several hundred thousand Negroes have moved from the South to the North and back again. This movement both North and South was taking place during the winter of 1923-24 and caused many Southern newspapers to publish the statement that Negroes were returning South and that the peak of the migration had been reached. What was taking place was that many Negroes returned South during the winter, went North again during the spring, and carried with them additional migrants.

—Monroe N. Work in the Southern Workman.

## MINISTERS SHOULD HELP TO ADJUST NEWCOMERS

Rev. Joseph W. Harris, Traveling Evangelist, Points Out Many Industrial Opportunities Awaiting Faithful Workers

After traveling in many sections of the country making a special study of the migration as it is destined to affect the colored people both North and South, Rev. Joseph W. Harris of St. Paul, Minn., is spending some time in St. Louis.

While here he is engaged in evangelistic work among the Baptist churches of the city. During his discourse he points out the double responsibilities which rest upon the churches made so by the migration of the colored people from the South, and calls upon the churches to help their brethren to adjust themselves to their new surroundings.

### Industrial Outlook

Speaking of the industrial outlook, Rev. Harris says that during his travels he has found many industrial openings to the new comers, and says there are many more to be opened if those who are already employed make good. He advises those who have a job to stick to it, make regular time and show themselves dependable. He states that there is now underway a ten million dollar plant being built by Henry Ford at St. Paul, Minn., and when completed will employ over fifteen thousand

men. Also the plans of some of the Northern railroads to use a large number of colored men in the reconstruction and maintenance of their roads.

### Trek North Continues.

The trek of the Negro farmhand of the South to industrial centres of the North continues. While this spring's onrush is not as disorganized or as spectacular as that of 1923, yet hundreds are leaving daily. It is true some of the migrants returned to their native heath during the winter because either of slack business or to escape cold weather, but the majority now making their way northward have never been out of Dixie.

To-day the migrant's method of reaching his objective is different from a year ago when he precipitately abandoned home with family, oftentimes leaving behind live stock and furniture.

Then he had no other specific destination in mind than to get North.

The average migrant is more systematic in his travels nowadays. For example: A field hand living in the rural district moves his family to Selma, Ala. After working long enough to get the bare necessities of life and accumulate a small bank roll he takes his family to Birmingham. Finding a job in the mills he gets in communication with relatives or friends employed in Northern industrial plants. When reasonably assured that employment awaits him he starts for some Northern centre, usually in Ohio or Michigan. After working a few weeks and making arrangements to house his family, he sends for them.

The number of Negroes leaving the South in March, April and May is said to be considerably less than during the corresponding months of last years.



Labor - 1924

Migration Movement.

# E. ST. LOUIS CLAMPS LID ON MIGRANTS

## Travelers from Dixie Must Keep Going

East St. Louis, Ill., Aug. 1.—The mayor and city council of East St. Louis, Ill., have asked the help of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in making public that owing to the overcrowded condition of the labor market there, no more migrants from the South are wanted in that city.

Clarence J. M. ... president of the East St. Louis branch of the N. A. A. C. P., writes that the population of our race there has increased from less than 6,000 in 1914 to nearly 18,000 at present, with little improvement in the housing situation, which forces "scores and scores of houses to furnish homes for eight and ten families under one roof of from five to seven rooms. The leading whites and capital here are friendly and favor the rights of our people, but the sentiment of 1917 engendered by organized labor is yet rumbling under cover. The city officials and real friends fear that the heavy influx during this dull term may cause a repetition of the memorable 1917 riots and they believe, as do the more thoughtful of our group, that with publicity of industrial and housing condition in our city, it will, at least for a while, stop the heavy migrating of our southern brothers into fruitless fields."

The East St. Louis branch of the N. A. A. C. P. is now discussing the establishment of a headquarters for the migrants, where they may either be helped to obtain employment and adjust themselves to prevalent conditions, or be assisted to obtain farm employment in St. Clair county.

# COLORED PEOPLE GROW IN NUMBER ON NORTH SIDE

## Report 11,000 Increase in Four Years.

Chicago's north side colored population in the back yard of the gold coast has increased nearly 100 per cent in the last eighteen months.

It is now estimated that between 9,000 and 12,000 colored folk have settled in that turbulent section known first as "Smoky Hollow" and more lately as "Little Hell" and "Little Italy."

There is now a colored church just two blocks from "death corner" and members of colored fraternities hold parades over the same streets marched by the Italians in the fiestas.

"Little Italy" occupies that territory from Grand avenue, north to North avenue, and from Wells street, west to Halsted. It runs the length of Lake Shore drive and thus is termed the back yard of the gold coast.

### District is Overcrowded.

It is a territory of ramshackle dwellings, mostly frame, overcrowded tenements, narrow streets and reeking alleyways and it has filled fast and is filling faster with Negroes.

Comparative figures show how rapidly this north side section is becoming a veritable new "black belt." In 1907, Dr. Aaron G. Fairfax, colored, who has been in practice on the near north side for twenty years, marshaled all the colored men and women there for political reasons. He said he found approximately 700.

In 1920, the federal census showed that there were but little less than 2,000. In 1922 old timers in the district said the federal census was wrong, there were 3,000 to 3,500 there in 1920, and a survey by THE TRIBUNE showed this number had increased in 1922, to 6,500.

Today whites and blacks familiar with the district and its commingled population of Negroes and Italians say that there are 9,000 to 12,000, and they speak conservatively, inclined to believe the latter figure as more nearly correct.

### Are Rapidly Increasing.

And whatever the figure, all admit it is rapidly increasing. New families of Negroes are moving in as fast as the tenacious Italians give ground, which is day by day.

Also, it is said that approximately 20 per cent of the colored folk on the north side, are not "northern" Negroes moved over from the south side, but Negroes from the southern states, recently migrated from the southland

and settled in Chicago because of the opportunities for making a living.

Economic conditions in the south and high rents in the "black belt" on the south side are given as the two chief reasons why the colored folk have come to Chicago and why they have settled on the north side.

Dr. J. H. Greer, colored pastor of St. Matthews M. E. church, in the heart of the district, tells of the former.

### The Result of the War.

"Before the war," Dr. Greer said, "many of the colored people in the south just lived on under the conditions which have obtained for the last twenty-five years. They didn't know anything about the north and thought they would freeze to death here."

"But their young men saw things during the war, and things changed. The black folk chafed under the veritable state of peonage they were in on the plantations, they chafed under the disregard of the fourteenth and fifteenth amendments. And so in many cases, encouraged by relatives in the north they just dropped all their belongings, slipped away and came north and here they are."

Charles F. Waldron, colored undertaker, 863 Orleans street; Eugene Smith, colored tailor, 870 Orleans street; Dr. H. R. Frey, colored M. D., 1048 Orleans street; Dr. Fairfax, colored; Lincoln Park Policeman Frank McGuire, stationed at Seward (small) park, in the center of the district; Mrs. Georgia De Baptiste Faulkner, head of the Butler community center, 1038 North Wells street; Jeremiah Driscoll, white, real estate dealer in the district with offices at 207 Chicago avenue; Edward O'Grady, white, for years a resident of the district, were among those interviewed.

### All Agree on Figures.

All agreed generally on conditions and the figures for the population which have been given, and all said the colored population is fast increasing.

There are now three large churches for the colored folk in the district and a dozen or more missions in stores and other quarters. The Butler community center is open to blacks and whites but attended almost 100 per cent, Mrs. Faulkner said, by blacks.

Blacks have their days for dances and whites their days for entertainments in the halls in Seward park. Dr. Fairfax is negotiating now, he said, for a building at Orleans and Locust streets in which he intends to have a clinic and educational center open to both blacks and whites.

### What of the Future.

Due to the demands of the colored folk for homes in the district, Dr. Fairfax in July, 1923, purchased and renovated one building with twenty flats at Oak and Orleans streets, and this is now occupied exclusively by black families.

He purchased another building at Locust and Orleans streets last April, thirty-four flats, which is now almost

filled.

What will happen as more colored folks come? Those who know say first of all that there are still in the territory outlined five whites to every Negro; and that when the colored folks find they must spread they will logically spread out to the north and west, and last of all to the east toward the gold coast.

## TRAINLOAD OF NEGROES.

"Back to Plantation" Movement Hints

Clarksdale, Miss., Aug. 10.—

A solid car load of negroes who just a few months ago were "jumpers" of the movement to the north from the plantations of the south, reached the city at noon today, the car being a part of the regular passenger train that passes through this city at noon from Memphis. The number that reached Clarksdale more than 50, is not the total number of those who made up the "back-to-the-plantation" movement when the train left Chicago and St. Louis, as the negroes have been dropping out of the train at different points in Dixie north of the city.

Questions as to some of the negroes in the party drew various replies, one of which was "Times is too tough up d, and I s'g' is glad to git back." Another negro claimed that the latest period was now in full effect and that those who were caught in this tide of non-employment were finding with few savings that had been able to pile up being rapidly eaten up by the heavy expenses of living. One negro declared that he had come back to look over conditions and to see if they had improved and that if not, that he would probably go back when jobs began to open up again.

At any rate, whatever the reasons for the return of the negroes, practically every face among them was lighted up with smiles and shouts of joy were heard on all hands by the prodigals in their greetings to local friends and acquaintances.

REVENUE, OR NEWS

1924

### Negroes are Returning.

Thomasville, Ga., Aug. 7.—According to reports from members of their race, Thomasville negroes who went North last year are beginning to come back. Those who have come report work as not being easy to get, as it was last year when they went and with the high cost of living there they found it hard to get along. A few left here early in the season thinking to find plenty of work and high wages but of late they have stopped leaving, realizing that it was better to stay at home.

The demand for labor in gathering the crops around this section is great and all of those who are willing to work in the fields can find plenty to do. With the amount of building being done here now many are finding good jobs and good wages.

## UNEMPLOYMENT SENDS MIGRANTS BACK

(A. N. P.)

MEMPHIS, Tenn., August 23.—Considerable comment has been caused this week by practically a full carload of

migrants returning from the territory close to Chicago. Most of the "prodigals" claim that they had to be influenced to come back because of the scarcity of work at the present time but hoped to go back as soon as things picked up.

## THE COLORED MOVE NORTH.

In a shifting of population many colored citizens are moving to the north side. Each such shift presents a problem in work the whites and blacks get along well enough. There aren't many instances of trouble on a job. The question is one of houses and recreation.

Separate recreational facilities as such cannot be proposed, but the fact can be admitted that it is in recreation that the greatest strain is put on the relations of the two races. The worst race disorders the city ever had began with trouble at a bathing beach.

Joint use of bathing beaches is out of the question. It would be inviting trouble. It is equally out of the question for the city realistically to recognize the fact and attempt separation, but it can endeavor to give sections of the city which are occupied by colored population adequate recreational facilities in parks, playgrounds, and pools available for the Negro citizenship.

A liberal recognition of the amusement needs of the population will be a practical avoidance of the trouble which comes when large mixed crowds try the same playgrounds. The contact is more dangerous in leisure, in play and amusement than it is at other times and the city gains nothing by trying to avoid the fact that it has a problem.

N. Y. C. JOURNAL OF COMMERCE  
AUGUST 6, 1924

## NEGRO MIGRATION CLOSES SILK MILL

### HAWTHORNE PLANT IN NORTH CAROLINA UNABLE TO OPEN.

Buildings, Machinery and Lands  
Now Idle—White Workers Can  
not Be Used as Mill Is Now Or-  
ganized.

(Special to The Journal of Commerce.)

FAYETTEVILLE, N. C., Aug. 5.—The Hawthorne Silk Mills, which have been operating in Fayetteville for thirty-five years, are not to be re-opened by the present company. The mills closed down March 15, because of market conditions. They will stay closed because of the migration of the negro labor to the North, Mr. Weiss says. Running full force, the mills employed 600 negro operatives.



AUGUST 5, 1924

## Negro Migration Northward

From the North American Review.

The World War is given as one cause of general dissatisfaction among the Negroes of the South. We are told that it familiarized them with the ease of travel and the fair wages of the North, and they continued to spread the tidings of a new industrial life. Whatever may have been the cause or causes of the Migration, the South will not ultimately suffer, and there is no occasion for wondering what will become of this supposedly benighted region. Certainly the race problem is no longer a problem of the South alone. That the South will ultimately benefit by the migration is undoubtedly true. The North will become acquainted with the Southern Negro, and indeed with the most illiterate type, for many of this type misled by labor agents and agitators, have been told that every door in the North would be thrown open to them and that jobs in the factories at good wages would be plentiful; when the truth is the Northern employer will likely employ white men as long as it is possible to get them and Negroes when he can get none other, and when the labor shortage is over the Negroes will be the first, no doubt, to lose their jobs.

## FLOOD OF NEGRO WORKERS FLOWS INTO CHICAGO

*Chicagoan*  
Predict 250,000 Living  
*Indiana*  
Here in 1930.

BY ARTHUR EVANS.

Negro migration from the south to Chicago is starting up again after a lull of nine or ten months.

Employment agencies report a large part of the present stream is coming from Florida, which is something new, for the movement of the last two or three years has come mainly from Georgia, Mississippi, and Alabama. It is ascribed to the Florida early fruit and vegetable crop, which was some two weeks late in ripening. Usually this crop strikes the northern market when prices are at the peak, but this year it arrived with the Texas, Georgia, Alabama, and Louisiana fruit, and the glut meant low prices for the grower.

The effect was to send many Negroes swarming north in search of jobs, just as the boll weevil and a poor cotton crop helped press Negroes north from the Mississippi delta, the fattest cotton region in the world, last year. But jobs are not pronouncedly abundant, and the agencies report many of them out of work.

## See Another Wave in Fall.

Social workers look for another large migration wave if industries enter upon a period of increased activities this fall. Since last October the influx has apparently been slight. It fell off when industry sagged. When unemployment starts, the Negro, in general, being the last man taken on the job, is the first laid off. No jobs, added to the rigors of a northern winter, sent many of them back to their old homes. Many centers of the south reported a return of old labor. For a period of several months more left Chicago than arrived, according to some social investigators.

In the last two or three months many have arrived at the railway stations, but those in closest touch say most of these have been visitors. Conventions have drawn thousands of them here, for Chicago is fast becoming the great Negro convention city, if it is not so already. The National Negro Business league, which has just finished its "silver jubilee" at Wendell Phillips High school, brought in 3,000 delegates, and next month the National Baptist convention is expected to bring in 3,000 to 5,000 from the south.

## Many Families Migrate.

In addition to visitors, however, many of the arrivals during the last two or three weeks have been migrants. Most of them are said to be families rather than single workers. Prospect of a good cotton crop is said to have cut down the movement from Georgia, Mississippi and Alabama, and some of the southern states are seeking ways of retaining their great labor supply with better housing and better schools. But social workers say all indications are that a period of increased industrial employment will see another surge northward of Negroes sent for by relatives and friends who have jobs in prospect for them, as in 1923.

A season of tremendous industrial activity, they theorize, will mean another step towards the industrialization of the colored labor now in the south. With the bars up against a stream of immigration from Europe to protect the American workmen, industries in the north will draw more and more upon the 8,000,000 Negroes in the southern states to get a labor supply.

## Need for Action.

What they are saying is that some sort of action ought to be started in advance to absorb an incoming stream with least trouble. Especially in the problems of housing, neighborhood adjustments, and recreational facilities.

In a dozen years the colored population of Chicago more than trebled. Back in 1910 Negroes in Chicago numbered 44,000. In 1920 they had increased to 109,485. In 1924 they number at a conservative estimate 150,000. Industrial expansion will mean an increase. For example, some students estimate that if the Calumet region develops into the center of the iron and steel industry, following the abolition of "Pittsburgh plus," it might bring in 30,000 to 50,000 Negroes in the next five years into the South Chicago-Gary mill region alone.

For the most part the incoming Negro labor of the last few years has been absorbed by the steel and iron mills, cement plants, coke ovens, railroads, and construction camps and the stockyards—almost any line, in fact, where common labor has been scarce. More and more, however, the Negro is penetrating skilled industry.

In leather goods, blacksmithing, wheelwrighting, mattress making and some of the electrical lines, they are increasing. They have one field almost to themselves—house-wrecking—and many of them are working as plumbers, brickmasons, and plasterers—down South the Negro is regarded as a "natural born plasterer."

## Women Seek Trades.

The women workers in general look for industrial rather than domestic employment. Many of them are in the needlework trades, millinery, dress-making, in the laundries and bakeries and restaurants, and numbers are in the factories which make lamp shades, where they are replacing a type of Russian Jewish workers, who in turn have advanced into garment making.

Much of the population shift and neighborhood changing follows the factory, the tendency of the worker being to live as close to his job as possible, and some social agencies point out Chicago might well be preparing for an increase in its Negro citizenship to perhaps 250,000 or more by 1930.

They were not running full force when closed. The payroll had dwindled to \$1,000 a week. From their establishment only negro labor has been used. The company owns seventy houses, most of which are occupied by former helpers now making a living as best they may in Fayetteville and Fort Bragg.

The company is solvent. It owns the mills free and clear, with seven and a half acres of land, and a pond, with inexhaustible springs, which feed the sprinkler system in the three buildings. There are two three-story buildings, 50x250 feet, and one building one-story high, 100x45 feet. There are also 3,000 acres of land in Cumberland County, the property of the Hawthorne Company.

Trouble about procuring sufficient labor began to be felt at the opening of the World War, Mr. Weiss says. Negroes have been brought here from as far away as South Carolina, but they did not stay. They were tempted away, many of them to jobs in Fayetteville itself. Every possible effort has been made to get more, but the supply does not equal the demand. Talk of the return of any considerable number from the North is piffle, Mr. Weiss says, and the mill cannot be operated as now organized by white labor.

BROOKLYN OBSERVER

AUGUST 14, 1924

## WHY COLORED FOLK LEAVE THE SOUTH

The first of the causes of negro migration is economic. For more than a century the economic life of the South has been based upon the delusive one-crop system of farming. Even before the coming of the boll-weevil pest, the credit system of the South, based upon its confidence in the cotton crop, kept the middle-class farmer as well as the poor negro tenant in a veritable state of slavery, as they were perpetually in debt to the landlord or to the merchant when the price of cotton was high, quite the same as when it was low.

The second cause which has contributed to the exodus is the political complex of the South. It is a well-known fact that in the South negroes generally cannot vote nor hold office. The negro wishes to be no longer a tool in the hands of unscrupulous politicians, but the guardian of his own sacred right of citizenship and the honor and dignity of the nation.

The third cause contributing to this exodus is the social factor. The Southern laws of disfranchisement and of segregation deny to the negro the fullest enjoyment of citizenship and deter him in his pursuit of happiness. He must live in the most unfavorable sections of the cities where sanitary and lighting facilities, fire protection, and other civic improvements are often lacking. Educational advantages have long been disproportionate, in some instances less than one-tenth per capita of what is spent for the white child being spent for the education of the negro child.—Southern Workman.

## NEGROES FLOCK BACK IN KEEN DISILLUSION

Prosperity "Special" Makes It a Round Trip.

## BACK TO COTTON FIELDS

Scarcity of Jobs in Chicago and Other Northern Cities Reported, and Whites Are Always Given the Preference.

JACKSON, Miss., July 24.—Mississippi negroes who joined the northern exodus during the last two

years are returning to the state in large numbers, according to statements of local railway officials.

Unemployment, it is stated, is driving the negroes homeward, especially the common labor classes. The Illinois Central operates a special coach on the southbound limited passenger train out of Chicago each night for the accommodation of negro passengers headed for points in Mississippi and Louisiana.

## CLAIMS MIGRATION ECONOMIC RESULT

Says Movement Must Not Be Considered Exclusively Racial, But of Population Shift

New York City, Sept. 17.—Writing in Current History Magazine for September, Abram Harris, J. M. Institute in West Virginia Collegiate Institute, contends that social causes have been over emphasized and economic causes ignored in accounting for the northward migration of Negroes. Mr. Harris contends that the migration is part of the drift from the country into cities, brought about by machine industry and aggravated by boll weevil and crop failures. The movement must not be considered as exclusively racial, he says, since "what we are prone to isolate as being essentially a Negro movement is merely a part of a greater shift in that part of the American population which thinks its fortune lies in some state other than that of nativity, or in the land of manufacturing enterprise."



Labor—1924.

## Migration Movement.

MAY 3 - 1924

### LET THE NEGRO ALONE (Talladega Daily Home)

There has been fewer of the negroes going away from the South this year than usual, and in fact, apparently more contentment with all races and colors than usual. Most of the colored people are at work on their farms or have good jobs at home and one had begun to think the "labor agents" and trouble breeders had abandoned threats or exploits on that race.

It turns out, however, the "agents" have begun to arrive in different fields, and once more all kinds of schemes are being executed to bring on trouble and dissatisfaction among laborers, the object being to get them to leave their homes in the South; and it has been learned that such agents just happen among them and put in their work on the quiet. It is said that somebody pays these so called agents one dollar each, for each one persuaded to move. Of course, if it be one hundred or two a month, the agent has made good wages without work.

The scheme was tried about Tuscaloosa, and when business was slim in getting movers, another trick was worked. This was to pick out leaders, and to post or mail notices that they must "get out of the country in so many days." The notices were not signed by the usual "Ku Klux," but this time by the "Great Black Cross."

The county officers of Tuscaloosa got hold of some of the notices and are now busy trying to catch the parties guilty of such law violations. Detectives have been put on the trails of the perpetrators, and the negroes asked to stay where they are and insured of protection and hence the scare scheme is not turning into the pockets of the "agents" as contemplated.

Are these agents that get one dollar each, alone in Tuscaloosa county? Are they not also in Talladega, and every other county in spite of a severe state law against such. The fact is there never was a better feeling among the races in the South than at present. There are jobs for all races and colors; and as a rule all are at work and doing well and slowly getting ahead. There is no room for threats and discontentment is but the worst of crimes. Surely such "agents" would not fare well were their real missions known; our suggestion is that any colored persons, receiving such solicitations, or receiving such notices to simply turn them over to the county officers,

who would delight in keeping such agents in Alabama, to dig coal at the mines, while at the same time offering guaranteed protection to the laws of the state.

The southern negroes that have migrated north will find that the northern white man might stand up for the colored race collectively but will do nothing for the individual. On the other hand, the southern white man will not stand up for the negro race collectively but will go out of his way and sometimes fight another white man about the individual negro.

HOUSTON TEX POST  
FEBRUARY 21, 1924

### Detering Migration From the Farm

Of all the deterrents to negro migration northward that have been suggested, that of C. A. Whittle, writer in the Manufacturers Record, is perhaps the most novel and, on its face, the most simple.

He would encourage negro tenant farmers to raise live stock. The cow, the sow, the hen, create conditions on the farm that breed contentment, he declares. Contentment has one of its roots in sufficient nourishing food. The farmer who is flanked with live stock is capable of living at home. He need not be beholden to any man for his subsistence.

There is sound common sense in that plan. The wonder is that it was not thought of before, and put into practice by those most interested in keeping the negroes at home in the South. The failure of negro farmers to have many of the comforts that are within their reach is responsible in large measure for their restlessness and desire to seek other fields.

They may be responsible for their failure, largely, but that does not relieve the white people of means of their duty of helping the negro to live better, by educating him in methods of obtaining a comfortable living through producing live stock and home garden truck, and by assisting him financially to get started in the production of those things.

There are difficulties in the way, to be sure. The plan is not as simple, as it appears. Many of the negroes are wasteful, improvident, and indifferent. But these traits would tend to disappear if their white neighbors and landlords took more interest in teaching them better methods.

This matter of encouraging the production of live stock on tenant farms applies to white as well as colored tenants. Tenant farmers generally could live better, if they gave more attention to the cow, the sow and the hen. One of the calamities of tenant farming in Texas is the absence on many such farms of any of these producers of the primary essentials of life.

The tenant farmer who devotes all his energy to producing a crop of cotton, to get money with which to go to town to buy meat, butter and eggs, is violating the first principle of successful living on the farm. Yet there are thousands of tenant farmers in Texas who do the very thing year after year. Not only that, they buy their feed for their work stock in town, instead of producing it.

In extenuation of this unsound practice, it may be said that many landlords, greedy to get a share of every pound of cotton that can be produced on land rented to tenants, do not encourage their tenants to

do anything but produce more cotton.

The Agricultural and Mechanical college, with its cow, sow and hen train, is doing much to educate the tenant farmers to the desirability of producing their own living at home, and having their field crops for profit. A widespread adoption of that plan will check not only the negro migration to the industrial centers, but the abandonment of the farms by tenants generally.

PHILADELPHIA PA N AMER  
JANUARY 19, 1924

### SOLUTION SOUGHT FOR NEGRO HOUSING

Shortage Here Discussed by Philadelphia Association; Migration From South Is Cause

Housing conditions among negroes in this city was discussed last night in Friends' Meeting House, Twelfth street above Chestnut by the Philadelphia Housing Association. There is at present a movement afoot among the negro laymen to purchase a number of houses in North Moss street to relieve the acute negro housing problem.

Dr. Charles J. Hatfield presided at the meeting, and told of housing conditions among the negroes here. Bernard J. Newman of the Philadelphia Housing Association, said that there were approximately 170,000 negroes in this city, and that during the year 1922, 10,500 of this number migrated into this section from the south.

Due to this ever-increasing immigration, Mr. Newman further pointed out it was necessary to provide better living conditions.

Despite the northward trend of Negro migration, Georgia still retains the central point of the black population of this country. It was, according to the census of 1920, near the little town of Rising Fawn, Dade County, Georgia. For generations the central point had tended southwestward, but it is now moving to the northeast. The farthest west and southwest it reached was four miles east of the Alabama-Georgia line.

### EXODUS OF NEGROES FROM AIKEN BEGINS

Aiken, May 4.—The exodus of negroes again this spring from Aiken section is heavy. Last week over fifty negroes bought tickets for points in the north, forty of them going to New York City. The leaving of the farm hands and house servants has caused much inconvenience to farmers in

making plans for the coming year.



# NOW MY IDEA IS THIS!

Daily Talks With Thinking Philadelphians on Subjects They Know Best

FORRESTER B. WASHINGTON

## On Adjusting the Negro Migrant to New Environment

THE MIGRATION of the Southern Negro into the great population centers of the North such as Philadelphia presents a variety of social and economic problems, upon the correct solution of which depends much of the usefulness as well as the happiness of the migrants, according to Forrester B. Washington, executive secretary of the Armstrong Association.

"In the great Northern cities which have been affected by this great migration," said Mr. Washington, "very few of the agencies which are supposed to be working for the welfare of the migrants have taken any real statesmanlike view of the whole situation."

### A New Viewpoint Necessary

"What I mean by this is that most of the agencies which have been working to give assistance to the Negro migrants have been using the type of assistance which is valuable in certain cases, such as case working, help for the delinquents, character building, etc. This kind of work is necessary and has its rightful place in the social scheme, but it does not take in all of the elements which should be considered in dealing with the problem of the Negro migrant. These problems, or rather elements, are racial adjustment and mass assimilation, both upon a very large scale, and many of the agencies have been simply nibbling at the edges of these problems."

"By this I mean that these agencies have been giving assistance to those of the migrants who fall below par. But these are in a minority. Where there are 100 of these persons who need assistance of this kind and are reached by these agencies, there are, in the summer months, about 1000 Negroes a week entering the city as permanent residents."

### Remedial Measures Not Greatly Needed

"Here are thousands of Negroes coming to Philadelphia all the time, most of whom are not handicapped either physically or economically. They will get jobs all right, and the great majority of them will prove to be thoroughly competent in these positions. But what is lacking is an instrument or an agency to get these persons connected up, not with the remedial machinery of the city, but with that normal machinery of the community which will assist them to become better neighbors and better citizens."

"There has been more or less popular misunderstanding of the exact type of Negro from which these migrants are drawn. To a far larger extent than the average person realizes, these Negroes come from the agricultural sections of the South. Many of them also come from the poorer sections of the larger Southern cities and towns. While it is true to a certain extent, as has been claimed by many persons, that the better class of Negroes, the professional men and those higher than the average in intelligence, have made up a goodly percentage of this most recent migration, still the fact remains that for the larger part they are peasants and are as timid in making connections with a great new city where all is strange and new to them as is the average European peasant."

### One Great Difference

"There is, of course, one great difference between the Negro migrant and the European immigrant: The Negro is an American-born citizen; he does not have to be naturalized, therefore, and he can speak the language of the country."

"Our association recognizes that, over and above the special cases and the social problems which these cases present, the real work to be done is racial adjustment on a large scale, and we are doing this, first, through the development of neighborhood groups, which usually take the form of clubs."

"To carry out this idea, we are going into the various neighborhoods of the newcomers and organizing these clubs in the homes of the residents. Thus we are trying to develop the matrix of neighborliness between the older colored residents of the city and those who have just arrived in such a manner as to get a normal assimilation or an adjustment to the conditions of the city."

### The Place of Speakers

"To these clubs, after they are organized upon the right foundation, we send speakers representing various interests and various types. For example, take the matter of schooling, especially the night schools, which are about the only ones which it is possible for these working people to attend. A socially minded colored school teacher will be selected to make addresses before the clubs, and thus the newcomers are linked up unconsciously with the schools of the city."

"In the same manner we secure representatives of the better type of the colored churches of Philadelphia to talk, and in this way the migrants get the benefit of the best type of colored moral leadership. Both of these plans have worked out in a most satisfactory manner."

"The first essential of this work is to break down that atmosphere of mystery with which the Negro migrant has surrounded our great institutions. Most of them are overawed by the huge school buildings which they see, and even more by the immense hospitals and other institutional buildings, of which, in their former environment, they had not the slightest idea."

### Forming the Clubs

"The clubs are formed by first finding the migrants who are in need of what such organizations can offer them. This is largely done by having sympathetic colored women go from door to door in the districts of the newly arrived and make their acquaintance. This is an important service, and it takes just the right type of worker to do it successfully. The white worker or the supercilious Negro would never be able to get inside the doors of these homes, and unless this is done first of all, the work cannot be successfully carried on."

"We do not duplicate the work of any of the existing agencies in this effort. In the formation of the clubs and the carrying on of the work which they do, we, of course, find many cases in which the work of some of the remedial agencies is required. We do not attempt to do this work ourselves, but in every case direct the persons to the proper agency and urge them to take full advantage of what that agency can do for them. This is better than the other way around, because we see thousands where the agencies which cannot make this intimate

contact with the homes of the migrants can see hundreds only.

### Must Act Early

"Our great job is to mold these migrants and to give them every possible help to become good citizens and good neighbors. But to do this, it is imperative for us to get hold of them at the earliest possible moment after they arrive here. In other words, we must do this work before they have had the opportunity to become abnormal."

"I cannot emphasize too strongly the importance of removing at the earliest possible moment the atmosphere of mystery with which the migrants themselves have surrounded some important features of the strange new life into which they have found themselves suddenly projected. This is one of the hardest things to accomplish, but it must be done and done thoroughly before the migrant can hope to take the place in the industrial and social life of the community for which his abilities and his natural gregariousness peculiarly fit him."

"There is a great field in industry for the Negro, and the strides which he has made to take the place for which he is now qualified have been tremendous."

## RACIAL JUSTICE

The New York Evening Post, in an editorial, appears concerned by the rapid colonization of the cities of New York, Detroit, Chicago by Southern negroes. The cities are losing what the Post calls like-mindedness, by which may be understood a condition of racial homogeneity, which condition is affected by the in-pouring of negroes from South and of white immigrants from Eastern and Southern Europe. Says the New York newspaper:

Between the years 1910 and 1920, according to Joseph A. Hill of the bureau of the census, speaking last week before the American Sociological Association at Washington, 312,000 Southern negroes came North. The rate of migration during that decade was six times the rate for the preceding decade. Since 1920 we know that the movement has shown no slackening. The South knows it most acutely, but the big cities of the North also know. Mr. Hill tells us the reason. Sixty per cent. of all negroes in Illinois live in Chicago. Sixty-six per cent. of all negroes in Michigan live in Detroit. Seventy-five per cent. of all negroes in New York state live in New York City. The negro drift North is a drift to the cities of the North.

The Post puts the question, whether New York would rather have the additional negroes or the whites, and does not say which it prefers; but the asking of the question indicates on which side it stands. The aggregation of colored people in the cities presents a new

and difficult problem. The Post recognizes that the immigration restriction account in part for the flow of negroes northward. The time is coming when New York, for example, will have to face the situation and say what condition will best promote like-mindedness, or, as we should put it, will least demote like-mindedness.

## MIGRATION OF NEGRO WORKERS DISCUSSED

### INDUSTRY CLASS TOLD PROBLEMS CAN BE SOLVED BY CO-OPERATION.

Causes which have sent the negro workers of the South to the industries of the North in increasing numbers since 1916, with a presently evident harmful effect upon the South, are largely possible of elimination through co-operation of the white people of the South, Prof. D. F. McCollum, of the East Texas State Teachers' College, Commerce, told the class in industry of the Dallas Civic Federation in an address Monday night.

After reviewing the increasing migration of the negroes northward, Prof. McCollum pointed to the factors which had been responsible for that migration, these including low wages in the South, poor housing facilities, inadequate educational facilities and the economic situation growing out of the ravages of the boll weevil in the cotton producing areas.

Limited variety of food due to low family income was another factor, he said, in sending the negro in search of larger wages and better conditions in other sections. While there was no doubt an exaggeration of the claim that the negro had been exploited through the commissary and tenant crop systems of the South, the claim may as well have been true so far as its effect upon the mind of the negro as a class was concerned, the speaker asserted.

### Desires Education.

The southern negro desired, above everything else, Prof. McCollum said, the opportunity of education for his children, and this was not adequately afforded with the average of expenditure being but one-eighth or less of the sum given for the per capita education of the white children. The speaker gave certain instances in which negro school children had been found without books, despite the

free text book law in Texas. He also said there had been instances where inferior negro teachers had been employed when more valuable ones were available.

### Race Consciousness.

Of the racial distinctions between the negro and his white neighbor, Prof. McCollum said: "This is rather a matter of principle than of prejudice. We want to maintain the integrity of our own race, and the negro is coming more and more to a degree of race consciousness which makes him want to keep his own race free from the infusion of other bloods." He asserted that the negro would find no more of social equality in the North than in the South; that everywhere he went in this country he would discover the same barrier, an insuperable distinction to be ameliorated only through the development of his own racial traits and racial culture.

If the negro was to be kept in the South, the speaker deduced, the South must measurably meet the conditions of environment with which the negro had been enticed to leave the South. He at least must be enabled to live in better houses, have a larger educational opportunity, with wages within approximately the same category as those paid in industries in the North. These measures would be found necessary for the protection of the South's own industries, he indicated.

Every phase of the question of the negro in industry was touched upon by Prof. McCollum, who has made an extended study of the subject in Texas and in other States. Some of the problems he named he frankly confessed he could not solve, but declared was time for the white men and women of the South to think together about them that they might be solved.



Labor - 1924.

## Migration Movement

# GETTING A JOB IS HARD JOB IN CHICAGO NOW

## Urban League Warns That 10,000 Are Out Of Work Now

How closely the destinies of Colored people in Chicago are tied up with "big business" we exemplified this week in an alarm sent broadcast by the Chicago Urban League, warning against any large influx of laborers into the city this summer.

According to figures published by the Urban League, there are 10,000 unemployed colored people in Chicago now, and upwards of 5,000 men, not including women and children, have entered the city since January 1st, over one railroad alone. 6-14-24

A representative of the League told the WHIP that several large industries which normally hire hundreds and thousands of people, have cut their payrolls in half, due to the shrinkage of business and the political situation. It is almost impossible, he said, to place one laborer on a job, whereas this time last year the same employers were anxious for help.

No relief for this situation is seen in the immediate future, and if laborers continue to flock to the city during the summer it is feared that a period of hardship similar to that of the winter of 1920-1921 will be experienced.

Even schoolboys, who customarily come to Chicago seeking employment for the summer months only, are unable to find work in the hotels and dining cars.

### Advise Delay In Coming

Inasmuch as it was easy to place three men at work a year ago it is now difficult to place one. At present at least two pairs of new shoes are worn out visiting plants where jobs might be available only to learn that there are no jobs. Hundreds of men, many of them experts in their special line, now block the doors of entrance

to their last place of work with lay-off slips awaiting the hour of reassignment to duty. An employer can not listen to an appeal for a newcomer in the face of such a condition. Many large plants work from three to five days a week with greatly reduced forces. During the last month one large steel plant laid off 1,500 men. No employer will predict when this situation may change. It is a happy chord to strike, however, that in most large industries the ratio of Negro workers to all workers remain the same. In the restaurants and cafeterias there is a constant change from Negro to white help under this stress. On the other hand the operation of new insurance and cab concerns has opened larger fields of employment to trained Negro workers.

Such is the situation as it exists to June 1st, a time of the year when generally everything is moving full blast. July 1st may find the whole condition of industry changed since the immigration law, the bonus, the surtax measure and the Presidential nominees will all have been settled. Then again it may be next March before the clouds of industrial depression will begin to clear. Because of this it is important to advise those who plan to move northward to get intelligent advice on opportunities for work and for reasonable shelter before breaking up the home in the South. It is certainly advisable to delay for at least a month as conditions are now. The following is a list of Urban League offices in the larger cities of the North where you may write at any time for reliable information on conditions as they affect the welfare of the Negro:

MINNEAPOLIS WHIP JOURNAL  
APRIL 14, 1924

bent upon us to mend ourselves rather than the Constitution, and to blame ourselves rather than to blame our very good organic law.

### A Place Waiting for the Negro

One of the brightest records of last year is the one that tells of fewer lynchings of Negroes in this Country. The record of twenty-eight lynchings last year is bad enough, but not without the promise of better things. The States and counties in which they occurred are apologetic and on the defensive. The Negro also sees new fields of opportunity opening up to him in the North.

The present extensive exodus of Negroes from the South is not their first migration in this Country. In the late Eighties many of them went West lured by the promises of employment agencies, seeking better treatment. But as one authority says, "the present migration differs from all others in that the Negro has opportunity waiting for him in the North."

Monday Evening,

whereas formerly it was necessary for him to make a place for himself upon arriving among enemies." The proportion of those returning to the South is, therefore, expected to be inconsiderable.

The present migration is having some wholesome results as reflected in the decreased number of lynchings. It also promises a better distribution of labor and gives less reason to urge and to justify the lifting of close immigration restrictions.

## The Migration: A Southern View

By GEORGE J. BALDWIN

WE HAVE recently seen a considerable migration of our Negro citizens to other parts of the country, partly due to economic causes and partly to a condition of lawlessness which has led the Negroes to fear for the safety of their homes and lives.

I ask you whether we wish to encourage this migration until the last Negro leaves us, or shall we remove its causes and keep them with us? I unhesitatingly assert that the prosperity of Georgia depends upon our keeping the Negro here. Our only alternative is to let them go and replace them by immigration from Central and Eastern Europe, bringing with it the Bolshevik and the Anarchist into the purest Anglo-Saxon state in the Union, where ninety-seven per cent of our white population is American born of unmixed parentage and American bred in American ideas. June, 1924

The economic question will settle itself. We can afford to pay the Negro as good wages as any other section of the country, measured by the quality of the services he renders. When this is known and acted upon the economic question will settle itself. Many of the migrants are returning South, evidently having found out that this section offers them equal industrial opportunity.

The question of social equality long ago settled itself and the false hopes held out in other sections, having been found fallacious, are today not considered seriously by the better class of our Negroes.

The other principal cause of the migration is the Negroes' fear for the safety of their lives and

property and the injustice often done them by our courts because their interests are not safeguarded by competent counsel, and it is to these two latter points that the Inter-racial Committee, composed of the leaders of both races in Georgia, is giving its attention. A fund has been raised which provides payment for good legal advice and help in the trial of any Negro in Georgia when it seems needed to secure that equal justice to which he is entitled. In addition, this committee is endeavoring by suitable publicity to bring about a public opinion in Georgia which will never again

permit the execution of any man, white or black, save after due and fair trial in the courts we have set up to insure justice to every citizen. We need freedom from lynch law in Georgia.

The economic question will adjust itself, the social question is a dead issue, but that of equal justice and protection is a living one and when that is settled, there will no longer be a "Negro Question."

The Episcopal Bishop of Georgia is the president of our local committee in Savannah. We need the influence of the church, not any particular sect but of the church as a whole, not only on this question but for its influence on the family, for its help in building up an unselfish community spirit, thus aiding in what I believe to be the most needed and most materially profitable part of the work of our Chamber of Commerce—the building up of the spirit of the community. Once this is done, the material things will follow as naturally as the waters flow from our mountains to the sea.

PHILADELPHIA PA. RECORD  
JUNE 27, 1924

## NEGRO JUDGE UPHOLDS MIGRATION OF HIS RACE

Tells Delegates Here the Colored Man Is an Industrial Success in the North.

### DELEGATES ATTACK KLAN

Secretary of Labor at Night Session Argues for Restricted Immigration.

Negro migration to the North was



pronounced an industrial success by Judge Ira W. Jayne, of the Circuit Court of Detroit, speaking before the mass-meeting held by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People last night, in its fifteenth annual conference, in the First African Baptist Church, Sixteenth and Christian streets.

Judge Jayne said that he could "prove by established facts from the industrial centres of the North" that the negro migrating from the South has made good in his new environment. Speaking from his experience in Detroit, one of the main centres of negro migration, he said that the so-called color line as a serious problem is scarcely perceptible. This he attributed in a great measure to the organization of labor on a shop basis, rather than on a craft basis.

The American Federation of Labor, he said, is making a great mistake in not giving the negro the same privileges as whites, for in this it is creating the antagonism of a great mass of laboring persons, whose support would be exceedingly valuable. Returning to the situation in Detroit, Judge Jayne said:

#### Cites Survey Statistics.

"Forrester B. Washington, recently of Detroit, now of the Armstrong Association of Philadelphia, surveyed the situation in Detroit, acknowledged one of the centres of this migration. His findings have been accepted as accurate by all elements of the community.

"These have been supplemented by similar reports in other cities. All these figures show the negro the equal in productive value to any group, the superior of many. In the riveting and moulding industries he has broken production records so often that it is no longer a novelty.

"There are 496 firms in Detroit employing 40,000 negroes, in numbers ranging from 7500 and 4000 down to 10, at equal pay with whites and under equal working conditions. One-fifth of the post office force in Detroit is composed of negroes. Postmaster John B. Smith says they saved the day for uninterrupted service during the recent wage demoralization, and 21,000 negroes are employed in the steel industry in the Pittsburgh district. Negro workers perform the major work in the stockyards of Chicago.

"These same statistics show his employment to be as regular, his health in the North as good, his dependency no more frequent than that of any other racial group. His cheerfulness, once mistaken for laziness, has been recognized as willing loyalty, and, what is more important and encouraging still, he is acquiring capital and the knack of management to enter the ranks of employers."

#### Secretary Davis Speaks.

United States Secretary of Labor Davis delivered an address at last night's session. The most significant item in it was an attempted justification of restrictive immigration. In very earnest phrases, Secretary Davis argued that America's unemployed would be doomed to permanent idleness if "millions" immigrated. This doleful conclusion aroused some of the negroes to applaud the idea of restrictive immigration.

His speech was a mixture of praise for the worker who worked with his hands gladly; for religion, especially the Baptist variety, for President Coolidge and the Republican party. The political aspect became decidedly dominant when

he finished reading his speech and relied on his own thoughts. His announcement that Mr. Coolidge would be returned to the Presidency was received with apathy. His praise of the soloist, Viola Hill, whose soprano voice is both gentle and clear, was appreciated.

The session was presided over by Harry E. Davis, a negro member of the Ohio Legislature. Mr. Davis described the migration to the north as a seeking after opportunity. He likened it to the historical migrations.

#### Publicity Urged for Klan.

Negro migration was also considered in the address of Robert W. Bagnall, of New York, who outlined the mistake the South is making in creating conditions which makes it advisable for negroes to leave. He concurred with Judge Jayne in saying that the negro is acclimating himself with remarkable ease to his new surroundings.

The morning session was taken up with routine business, and the afternoon with consideration of the Klan and methods of combatting it. It was suggested that they combine with the Catholics and Jews, but this scheme was not considered practicable.

Rev. Garnet R. Waller, of Springfield, Mass., and Mrs. G. Kelmon, of Brooklyn, N. Y., discussed the activity of the church conducting a continuous propaganda against the Invisible Empire.

Herbert J. Seligmann, of New York, read a paper on the effectiveness of newspaper publicity as an anti-klan weapon. He pointed out that all the outrages of the organization were quickly picked up by the papers and given the widest publicity, thus creating public sentiment against it.

Dr. W. W. Wolfe, of Newark, outlined a definite policy of anti-klan propaganda by which the association would keep before the public the activities of the hooded organization.

NEW YORK CITY POST  
JUNE 26, 1924

## THE NEGRO MIGRATION

### Those Who Come North in Spring Return South in Winter

From Southern Workman.

The negro migration of the past eight years, while it may be considered as one movement, has two important phases; that of 1916-1920 and that of 1922-1924. The first of these really began in 1915, reached its maximum in 1917, and continued at a decreasing rate up to 1920, when, because of the economic depression, it almost ceased. Estimates made at the time of the number of negroes who went north ranged from 150,000 to 1,000,000. The 1920 census showed, however, that, in spite of the great movement of negroes northward during the previous four years, the number of negroes from the South living in the North had increased in the decade 1910-1920 by only 330,260.

Estimates of the number who have migrated in the past three years vary from 100,000 to 500,000. It is very probable that if a census were taken this year it would show that there are probably not 250,000 more negroes from the South living in the

North and West than there were in 1920. As a matter of fact, many negroes who went north in 1922-1924 were persons who had already been North and had returned to the South during the economic depression. It is probable that during the past ten years several hundred thousand negroes have moved from the South to the North and back again.

NEW YORK CITY POST  
JUNE 25, 1924

## THE NEGRO MIGRATION

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## NEGROES RETURN HOME

### Greene County Prodigals To Cultivate Cotton.

Greensboro, Ga., July 7.—(Special.) Many Greene county negroes who migrated north and east during the

past few years have returned to resume farm work this season. The effort to raise cotton in this county has attracted many of them. Those who have returned state that while good wages were paid in the north, living expenses were in accordance with salaries.

JUN 10 1924

## Migrating Negroes Have Had Their Eyes Opened by Northern Experiences

The migration of negroes from Southern states to Northern industrial centers appears to have been checked. Little is heard now of negroes leaving agricultural districts or towns and cities in the South for the North. On the other hand it appears that many of the negroes who left Southern homes to try their fortunes in the Northern cities have managed to get back into the South and that they are well content to stay there.

The negroes have been disillusioned. Those who went North found that the promises held out of higher wages, better living conditions and greater social equality were merely the highly colored fiction of the labor agent. In many instances negroes who went North found wages no better than they had been receiving in the South and in every instance they found living expenses much higher, so much higher in fact, that the small increase in pay did not help in any way. The promise of better living conditions was even more false than that of high wages, for many of the negroes in the Northern cities lived huddled in tenements that were crowded with other negroes, unsanitary, without proper light or sufficient air and no room for children to play. The social equality promise, of course, was wholly false.

This summer there has been little said of negroes moving to Northern centers. In previous summers great numbers were reported from various Southern states as leaving for Northern cities and the exodus became so great in some states that there was fear of an acute shortage of common labor on farms and in manufacturing plants employing negroes. There is no hint of such a shortage now. In some parts of the South where rural districts lost many negroes through the Northern migrations, there still is a shorter supply of them than in other days, but a sufficient number have come back to relieve any fear of a serious shortage of labor on the farms.

The whole trouble may be laid to labor agents working often secretly, in negro communities in



## Labor-1924 Migration Movement.

the South to secure cheap negro labor for Northern industrial centers where there was a shortage of ordinary labor. The passing and enforcing of laws in a number of Southern states against the labor agents who sought to lure labor from Southern communities has had a wholesome effect. The awakening of the negroes to the true situation, their realization that they were being influenced by false promises and that nothing was to be gained by leaving good homes in the South for doubtful ones in the North, has had a still better effect.

The return of many negroes from Northern industrial centers, and the experiences they relate of their unpleasant sojourn in the North has convinced negroes generally that the best place for a Southern negro is in the South where the climate suits him, where the people understand him, where he never comes to real want so long as white neighbors have anything or any work for him to do, and where he can live peacefully among the white people who demand only that he behave himself. None of these conditions were found to prevail in Northern manufacturing cities.

It probably will be a long time before any considerable number of Southern negroes will again be willing to leave the South for the promise of other conditions in the North. The eyes of those who went North and of those who remained at home have been opened. It cost some of them months of hard work, privations and misery in the Northern cities to reach the point where they were willing to admit the blunder of their move, but they admit it now. Some who went North have not yet been able to lay aside enough money to bring them back, but they are working to that end, and as soon as they save enough, they will hurry back to the South. Few of them wish to spend another winter in the North. They know what such an experience means. They know how much suffering, how many privations, how much misery they have to endure during a Northern winter, and they remember how different it was in the South.

The migrating negro has been "cured." He wishes to migrate no more.

## Negroes Going to Illinois Because of Cotton Growing

SELMA, ALA., Feb. 28.—Special to The Advertiser.—R. F. Ross, prominent Water street broker, reports the following information that will be of considerable interest throughout the

cotton growing section of Alabama, furnished by the Halliday Elevator company of Cairo, Illinois:

"We are very much interested in the information given about the hungry carpet coming back. So many of them are not all leaving Illinois for Dixie and. Here in this state there is an inflow of black population particularly in the section of Cairo, Illinois the past several weeks that is surprising. These people are coming in mostly from Mississippi and have been attracted to this locality by the cotton proposition. Illinois expects to raise cotton in 1924, and from this time on until the boll weevil works his way that far North. However experts do not believe that the weevil will be able to invade that part of the country. Experiments made last year throughout the entire section of Illinois on cotton were very satisfactory and profitable. The same thing will undoubtedly be witnessed this year.

"There is going to be in the locality of Cairo and surrounding county, some ten or twelve thousand acres planted to cotton and the four counties in Southern Illinois running along the river north of the Mason-Dixon line will plant during the next few weeks approximately 50,000 acres in cotton; while Southeast Missouri will abandon thousands of acres of wheat and corn and plant cotton this year."

"This is unusual information and will no doubt be interesting to all Alabama farmers and cotton growers, as it is not generally known that cotton is being grown so far north and in the large acreage as announced by this well known business firm of Cairo."

BROOKLYN N. Y. TIMES  
JUNE 11, 1924

### Progress of the Negro.

Probably there has been seldom such an exemplification of the progress of a race as that of which President Coolidge took notice in his address at the Howard University commencement exercises last Friday. Since President Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation, the whole negro question in the United States has undergone a remarkable change. The negro has found out how to acquire property, education, and develop negro leadership of a high quality. He has won the respect of thinking whites throughout the country.

The condition of the present day can be scarcely compared with the condition of the days following the Civil War. Then the political negro was the leader, and the more ruthless and ignorant he was, the greater seemed his power. That era passed with the disturbing causes and the real progress of the emancipated negro began. Mr. Coolidge alluded to the sacrifices, to the denials, to the sufferings, and also to the wonderful successes. He didn't refer to a recent development, and that is the great movement of the educated negroes to the North, in which they enjoy the privileges of

citizenship in higher degree than they did in the old South. There they are still under one pretext or another denied their legal rights. In 1923 half a million negroes moved out of the original Southern States. They have furnished food for the labor market of New York, San Francisco, Chicago and other cities. In the twenty years just past the negro population increases figures in these cities show: New York, 1900-1910, 51 per cent.; 1910-1920 it was 60 per cent.; Philadelphia, 35 per cent., and 59 per cent.; Pittsburgh, 26 per cent. and 47 per cent.; Chicago, 46 per cent. and 148 per cent.; Detroit, 39.6 per cent. and 611 per cent. Chicago had 44,000 negroes in 1910 and 110,000 in 1920. Detroit had, respectively, 5,741 and 40,838.

In education, in industry, in literature, in art, the race has made its contributions and well deserved the encomiums of President Coolidge.

TRENTON N. J. ADVERTISER

MARCH 2, 1924

### JUSTICE FOR THE NEGRO.

The Negro problem is coming home to Trentonians in acute form. For many years people in the North have felt competent to advise the South off-hand as to how they should treat the colored brother. At closer range the difficulty is not easily disposed of.

Fair-minded citizens will not deny that there is a measure of justice involved in the present demand of protesting Negroes. The housing situation is of first importance. Something should be done to enable the newcomers from the Southern States to abide in peace and comfort among us. It is, indeed, a good sign to witness the ambition of so many representatives of the Negro race to improve their home surroundings in the direction of modern hygienic regulation. Since the outbreak of the World War more than 1,500,000 emigrants have left the South, and the migration still continues. They are distributed over the North and, therefore, Trenton's new housing problem is the problem of many other industrial cities.

About the wisdom of interfering with the regular city school authorities in the direction of educational progress, there is room for question. It may be taken for granted that in this matter the School Board is entirely disinterested, aims only at the best results for the pupils and is better informed than any group of citizens can be as to the qualifications of appointees.

It is highly gratifying to note that the representatives of the colored race here assert a desire to avoid disagreeable controversy and wish to accomplish results by peaceful, rational exchange of views. This is as it should be and constitutes further proof that the Negro is advancing to higher levels of thought and action.

Just how far equalization may proceed be-

tween the races is still in dispute. That the Negro should not push the matter too precipitately the best friends of the race recognize. At present a sharp conflict is on, by way of illustration, over the placing of a white woman and a Negro in opposite roles in a New York play. It is questionable whether Trenton's newer settlers will not gain more by a complaisant attitude in attempting to alter long-established conditions than by arousing white resentment.

JUL 8 1924  
NEGROES RETURN HOME

Greene County Prodigals To  
Cultivate Cotton.

Greensboro, Ga., July 7.—(Special.) Many Greene county negroes who migrated north and east during the past few years have returned to resume farm work this season. The effort to raise cotton in this county has attracted many of them. Those who have returned state that while good wages were paid in the north, living expenses were in accordance with salaries.

## THE MIGRATORY NATIVE OF THE HUMAN RACE

The negro like all the rest of humanity is a migratory animal. Had it not been that the human race was migratory new worlds would not have been discovered. Men have always moved and it has been due to the lack of contentment with their surroundings.

As far as the negro is concerned conditions regarding the races are about the same as they have always been ever since the Civil War, except their condition is constantly improving and the average man is appalled when he discovers the enormous amount of wealth they have accumulated and the progress they have achieved since they were made free.

If the same restrictions were placed on the negro, that are now being placed on the Japs in California it would have been absolutely impossible for them to have reached the success they have obtained. They already own land in the South embracing a territory larger



than the state of South Carolina, and their property runs up into the hundreds of millions of dollars. It is silly to say the negro is leaving the South on account of the Ku Klux Klan, lynching, or because of alleged discrimination of the laws. The movement has been solely on account of conditions arising out of the invasion of the cotton belt by the boll weevil and a shortage of common labor in the North brought about principally by the restrictions of emigration from Europe and the Orient. Consequently high wages were paid in Northern industries. The question is strictly an industrial one. The negro has never learned to adapt himself to the new conditions produced by the great destruction of the cotton yield by the boll weevil, and not being able to do so, made it absolutely necessary for some of them to move out. While it has worked a great many individual hardships, it is no doubt best for all concerned and in the end will be advantageous to both races.

It will eventually help to solve the race question and give the Northern man a better idea of his brother in black, and the negro a better understanding of his Northern friends, when viewed at close range. No doubt a great deal of misunderstanding will be removed and in course of time the race question may be eliminated by a more equal distribution of the negro throughout the Republic.

There is the danger of the North, not fully understanding negro character, will not be able to do him full justice, on this account and finally growing tired of him will force his return to his native South. The North might find the negro just as hard to assimilate as Californians have found Japanese, if so they may begin to figure how to circumvent the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendment to the Federal Constitution.

FEBRUARY 23, 1924

## WELFARE OF NEGROES

PENNSYLVANIA, in common with its neighboring States, has new problems to meet as a result of the migration of Negroes from the South. To a small degree the problems are seasonal in that the peak of their urgency comes in the spring and summer. However, the better economic opportunities of the North are holding here a large proportion of the Negro migrants from the South the whole year round. There are problems of housing, of sanitation, of education, of recreation.

Dr. Potter, State Secretary of Welfare, has received a report from a findings committee appointed at a conference last month on the many problems involved. The report proposes a program which will require a good deal of time and effort to put into practice. The important thing, however, is that

the problems have been recognized as existing, and a start made to find a solution for them.

The Negro leader is in most instances a man of education and ideals, too busy finding a way to help his people to be very bitter about the treatment accorded them and the conditions under which they are forced to live. There is much in the reception the North has given these migrants, however, for which we ought to reproach ourselves. The Negro laborer is received gladly by all who deal with labor because he is a brawny answer to most questions of man power in factory and building operation. But his comfort, his health, the protection and general welfare of his family have been disregarded in a large measure.

It is a question of finding him a decent house where he may live, a school where he may send his children, and providing medical and moral safeguards. Dr. Potter's efforts to provide these things will be repaid not only by the gratitude of the Negroes but by the general well-being of the communities in which they have taken up their abodes.

## MORE WHITES LEAVE SOUTH THAN NEGROES

Chicago, January 23.—Four hundred four thousand more whites than negroes had migrated from the south in the 10 years preceding the 1920 census, according to the report of the board of home missions and church extension before the council of benevolence of the Methodist Episcopal church. The report stated that the movement of migration northward was largely of an economic character.

The report said the census showed that 780,000 white persons born in south had migrated northward up to the time of the census, while 376,600 negroes had moved north up to the time of the census.

JUN 26 1924

## Exodus of Negro And Weevil Pest Called Blessing

Athens, Ga., June 25.—(Special.) With "Georgia" as the subject and selling Georgia to Georgians as his special theme, Dr. A. M. Soule, of the State Agricultural college, delivered an address to a group of students Tuesday night at the State Normal school.

Dr. Soule mentioned the exodus of the negro and the advent of the boll weevil as two of the greatest blessings that have come to Georgia in several decades.

"The advantage of the former is that Georgia farmers and Georgians in general have been forced to think and plan more for their own future and welfare," Dr. Soule said. "With the negro as a laborer, little progress was made. When he began to leave in larger numbers, the white men began to think and to develop new possibilities and new industries."

"The coming of the boll weevil led to the diversification of crops, and a more careful cultivation and marketing of the products. Georgia today is not only producing cotton and corn, but large quantities of such products as tobacco, peaches, watermelons and enormous quantities of vegetables for the market. Conditions have led to the building of cotton factories worth millions of dollars, the cheese making industry and hatchery business has thrived."

Dr. Soule seemed enthusiastic over the future progress of the states, but urged Georgians to be "possibilists" rather than pessimists or optimists.

"Georgia is ready to go, and has the opportunity to make her greatest forward step," he declared.

much higher, so much higher in fact, that the small increase in pay did not help in any way.

The promise of better living conditions was even more false than that of high wages, for many of the negroes in the northern cities lived huddled in tenements that were crowded with other negroes, unsanitary, without proper light or sufficient air and no room for children to play. The social equality promise, of course, was wholly false.

This summer, railroad men here state, there has been little said of negroes moving to northern centers. In previous summers great numbers were reported from various southern states as leaving to northern cities and the exodus became so great in some states that there was fear of an acute shortage of common labor on farms and in the manufacturing plants employing negroes. There is no hint of such a shortage now, it was stated.

JUL 4 1924

## Conference Is Held Between Board Members And Engineer Smith At Which Time Plans Were Discussed.

An important conference looking a change in road paving materials has been held in Valdosta between Division Engineer Jack Smith and the board of county commissioners.

While no official action was taken is understood that there is a strong probability that the road from Valdosta to the Brooks county line will be paved with concrete or some similar hard and permanent material.

It is believed that if Lowndes county can do the grading with the convicts there will be money enough to carry the permanent road project through the eastern part of the county.

Engineer Smith stated that the plans for the work on this project could be completed in thirty days and ready for advertising. After it is it can be definitely determined



Labor-1924.  
Migration Movement.

## THOUSANDS NEGROES ARE IDLE IN NORTH

MANY ARE REPORTED PENNILESS, FACING A WINTER OF MUCH SUFFERING.

ATLANTA, Sept. 23. — Several northern cities are wrestling with the problem of preventing more southern negroes moving to them under the mistaken impression that work is plentiful and wages good in the north, it is pointed out by railroad passenger agents. In most of the cities of the north, reports received here state there are already thousands of idle negroes, most of them recent arrivals from the south, and nearly all of them will become public charges during the winter, with inevitable suffering on the part of many.

### Misled by False Promises.

"For southern negroes to consider joining the many already in the north and thus aggravating the situation as well as facing almost certain distress and disappointment is folly," said a well-known railroad passenger agent. "Yet evidently some, perhaps many, are planning this when the cotton picking season in the south ends and they have the money for the trip north. The trip back south again, a trip most of them soon will wish to make, will be much more difficult to arrange, for those who go north soon find the promise of work a false one and when their money is exhausted, which is very soon after arrival, they are helpless and powerless to return again to their southern homes."

Last winter white people in Georgia contributed generously to bring back a large number of negroes who had gone from the state to north.

## TELLS NEGROES TO REMAIN IN DIXIE

### Rev. S. M. Brown Tells Members of His Race South is Best Place For Them

Plans have been arranged for the erection of a new house of worship at St. John Methodist Episcopal church, colored, sometime in 1925. The old church building has stood for 60 years.

The white people in the city and in the rural districts have contributed loyally to this cause, and promise the pastor to do all they can to help the colored people to complete this church. "I have only lost two families in four years going north, and it is all due to better conditions in the country for my people," the pastor, Rev. S. M. Brown said. "I am preaching to my people to remain in the Sunny South, where we are well known by the white people and can get a favor in time of need, if we only prove ourselves worthy."

"We thank the white people and colored people who are standing by us."

The following amounts were reported at St. John, Nov. 30, 1924 for the erection of the new church: Minnie Berry, \$10; Birdie McCoy, \$3.80; Winnie McBee, \$22.85; Eva Burdin, \$6.55; Reese Williams, 10.80; G. W. Grey, \$64.65; M. C. Bradley, \$5.00; Hattie Johnson, \$18.10; Lead Grey, \$5.00; Lizzie Berry, \$13.50; Marm Bradley \$10.00.

### NEGRO MIGRATION TURNING WEST-WARD

Economic Conditions in Cities Plus Restricted Immigration Lends Impetuous To "Back To The Soil" Movement.

Los Angeles, Calif., Dec. 12—With the gradual industrial recession under way increased pressure is continually being brought to bear thru strong racial prejudice, limiting in a serious way the occupations heretofore open to Negroes. The Russell Sage Foundation after four years of careful investigation reports, "Race prejudice is limiting very much the occupations open to Negroes; until recently the only

lines of work to which Negroes were admitted have been farm and plantation labor, personal service and common labor." In other localities preference is given to ex-service men of the white race only. In Louisiana, a determined effort is being made to bring in more Mexican labor to the cotton belt.

### Situation in West

Whereas the steady migration of the Southern Negro to the Industrial centers of the North and East has created such a shortage of labor in the Southern States as to make possible the importation of Mexican labor; the Japanese exclusion throughout the Pacific States has created a similar situation, particularly throughout the cotton growing section of California.

### Remedy Lies in Colonization

California thru its isolation by distance from the Southern cotton states is not affected by the shifting of the two or more million migratory workers, mostly unskilled, who comprise the labor reserves of the lumber, railroad, construction and agricultural industries. California's labor solution lies in the systematic supervision of Farm Laborers.

The only type of Negro laborers of its various colonization projects. needed in California is the farm laborer. The type of Negro farm laborer, who is not a drifter, but who desires to settle, colonize and become a permanent asset to the community is what is needed in the Far West. The Colonization of western farm lands is no longer a hit and miss proposition to be left to the inexperienced and irresponsible, whose only interest is an immediate profit regardless of the class of land sold or what may happen to the purchaser.

### Non-Profit Negro Organization

Successful colonization is based on confidences. To move people from one section to another they must be inspired with confidence in the new country; in the value of the lands and what they will produce. Also they must believe that fair returns may be expected for the labor and capital invested. And what of the future?

Can they succeed along the same general lines as in the past, or must they approach the problem in a newer and different method? And to this end, thirty-five of the leading Negro real

estate men, firms and corporations on the Pacific Coast recently formed the first organization composed of Negro real estate dealers whose sole object is to encourage, direct, supervise and protect all Negro colonists desiring information, advice, and protection. The California Colored Realty & Development Ass'n (Inc.) is to the white colonists; a means of obtaining authentic reliable news and information on any subject desired relative to the Far West and its relation to the Negro.

## COLORED FOLKS IN MISSOURI

Secretary Robt. S. Cobb Discusses Negro Migration to Southeast Mo. and Other Conditions Confronting the Race.

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., Dec. 23.

In the third biennial report to be submitted to the General Assembly when it meets in January the Negro industrial Commission, through Secretary Robert S. Cobb, devotes a chapter on the Negro in Southeast Missouri, which is both interesting and instructive. The report says in part: "With a large increase in cotton acreage in Southeast Missouri, there has been a correspondingly large increase in Negro population in the past two years. By the coming of thousands of Negroes from the Southern States to till the cotton fields of Southeast Missouri, there has come about new conditions that must be met and which should be met in a way best for all concerned. Along the highways of the district may be seen hundreds of new

houses built for the colored families who have moved into the country and these houses are, as a rule, much better than those furnished in the more southern states for colored tenant farmers and cotton field hands. Dec. 27, 1924

"Many schools for colored children have been established in the district and the best available teachers are being secured. During last summer a training school for colored teachers was conducted at Cape Girardeau to furnish more efficient teachers for the schools of Southeast Missouri. Thousands of Negroes have left the Southern States to seek work in the industrial centers of the North, and this experience has not been a happy one to many of them. The change from their lives and labors on Southern plantations to the work of shops has been a change that came too sudden without sufficient preparation for meeting strange conditions and environments. The loss of jobs in some of the industrial centers has been hard to bear by people who have been accustomed to the friendship of their white employers who helped them through periods of crop failures and business depression. But the move to Southeast Missouri has not been such a radical change and the tilling of cotton in the new country has been the carrying on of labor they have known all their lives; better dwellings and better schools have been given to them, as their lot seems to offer more encouragement for future happiness and prosperity."

deau to furnish more efficient teachers for the schools of Southeast Missouri. Thousands of Negroes have left the Southern States to seek work in the industrial centers of the North, and this experience has not been a happy one to many of them. The change from their lives and labors on Southern plantations to the work of shops has been a change that came too sudden without sufficient preparation for meeting strange conditions and environments. The loss of jobs in some of the industrial centers has been hard to bear by people who have been accustomed to the friendship of their white employers who helped them through periods of crop failures and business depression. But the move to Southeast Missouri has not been such a radical change and the tilling of cotton in the new country has been the carrying on of labor they have known all their lives; better dwellings and better schools have been given to them, as their lot seems to offer more encouragement for future happiness and prosperity."

### Negroes Must Work Out Own Salvation.

"The Negro farm hand, or tenant, in Southeast Missouri, must determine to make good in carrying out his part of the obligations of life if his residence is to remain permanent and his prosperity to continue. We must bear in mind that Southeast Missouri is a country of greatly diversified farming opportunities and that if cotton proves too costly a crop, there will be a greater return to crops of other sorts and the need for the Negro farmer lessened."

"He must also realize that he has not behind him the many years of tradition that have bound him to the Southland, and that in many places of Southeast Missouri the Negro is for the first time, being admitted as a citizen. His continued citizenship in such communities rests entirely upon himself—upon his industry, his reliability, and his desire to prove himself worthy of a citizenship under the new conditions."

These are times of analysis for scientific surveys of conditions and the solution of economic problems by business methods, so the Negro must



begin to realize more clearly that  
if he hopes to gain recognition as an  
economic factor in the community  
in which he lives he must prove his  
worth to the community."



Labor - 1924.

Illinois.

Occupation, Wages, etc.,  
**Many Colored People  
Hold Public Offices  
In City of Chicago**

CHICAGO, Ill., April 10.—(By The Associated Negro Press)—This city not only has more Negroes employed in public service in outstanding positions than probably any other city in the country, but is also a claimant of honors for the number of workers employed in so-called average positions. In one Cook County office, that of the recorder of deeds, there are employed 61 colored typists, stenographers, clerks and foreman. Their pay ranges from \$160 to \$300 a month. One of the superintendents, colored, has 18 whites working under him. The certified typist of the office is a colored girl, Miss Lora Johnson. Her salary is \$250 a month. The recorder of deeds is Frank F. Haas.

Labor - 1924.

Occupation, Wages, etc.,

**Diamond Medal  
For 50 Yr. Porter**

Birmingham, Ala., June 26.  
—Richard Rather, 70, upon being called to the head offices of the Louisville and Nashville railroad this week, was presented with a gold service button set with ten diamonds and a letter of commendation for having completed fifty years continuous service with the company. He was also placed on a pension.

**REWARDED FOR FIFTY  
YEARS SERVICE**

Associated Negro Press.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., June 25.—  
Richard Rather, 70, upon being called to the head offices of the Louisville & Nashville railroad this week, was presented with a gold service button set with ten diamonds and a letter of commendation for having completed fifty years continuous service with the company. He was also placed on a pension.

Alabama.



Labor - 1924

D.C.

Occupation, Wages, etc.,  
**NEGRO PRINTERS ADVANCE  
IN FEDERAL DEPARTMENT**

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 17.—  
The government printing office at  
Washington is offering a splendid  
opportunity to colored tradesmen.  
According to a report by Walter J.  
Singleton, the department has in-  
creased the size of its staff of Negro  
workers and given a substantial  
raise in salary. *Dec. 19, 1924*

The head of the huge federal print-  
ing bureau, has appointed 5 colored  
youths as apprentices. 12 Negro print-  
ers are under their charge. Under  
the present administration, composi-  
tors have advanced to \$7.60 a day,  
and typesetters to \$8.40 with 15 per  
cent additional for night work and  
50 per cent for over time. A full  
fledged printer receives from \$2,000  
to \$3,000 annually.

Labor - 1924.

Occupation, Wages, etc.,

*Independent*  
ST. PETERSBURG FLA. TIMES  
JANUARY 20, 1924

**Equal Pay for Blacks.**

Negroes in St. Petersburg now are be-  
ing paid higher wages for unskilled labor  
than is paid in any city in Florida, we are  
told, yet the blacks are loafing and it has  
been necessary to import laborers from  
other cities to make up for the shortage  
that exists here, and still the negroes are  
demanding further increase in pay.

The question of pay for negroes for  
such work as they do has just now come  
up for discussion. In that connection we  
notice an attack upon William G. Mc-  
Adoo, plainly for the purpose of influenc-  
ing Southern delegates upon the ground  
that Mr. McAdoo while director general  
of the railroads, insisted that negro em-  
ployes of the railroad administration  
should receive equal pay for equal work  
with white employes.

The Independent does not believe that  
this incident will make a single vote  
against Mr. McAdoo in the South or any-  
where else. Its importance is, indeed,  
chiefly as an indication of the somewhat  
desperate frame of mind the anti-McAdoo  
men are getting in. The former secretary  
of the treasury is leading the field for the  
Democratic nomination. And surely if  
nothing stronger can be produced against  
him than the fact that, while in great pub-  
lic office, he insisted that a colored man  
be paid the same as a white man for ex-  
actly the same kind of work, there will  
be a further drift in his favor.

But the fact is that the negro comes  
nearer getting equal pay for equal work  
in the South than he does in the North.  
In the North the negro is not admitted to  
most of the labor unions and is held to  
unskilled labor. In the North, for in-  
stance, no negro firemen—or at least very  
few—are to be found on the railroad  
trains, while in the South most of the  
firemen are negroes and they get good  
pay. It is the same in many other lines.  
The negro who makes himself competent  
and is willing to work finds no trouble  
in getting employment at good wages.  
The trouble is that most of them want  
big pay without rendering good service.

Florida.



Labor - 1924.

General.

Occupation, Wages, etc.,

# Race Girls Are Telegraphers On Railroads

Department of Labor Statistics Show Surprising Results — 136,065 Hands Employed.

rail lines, in fact, boast of four female Negro telegraphers. Illinois, with the veteran J. H. Kelley, who for more than forty years has been a telegrapher for the Illinois Central Railroad Company, takes first place in the period of employment service.

Geographically, these 136,065 Negro rail hands are well distributed throughout every State in the Union. Georgia leads, with 10,865 and is followed by Louisiana, with 9,141; Virginia, 9,010; Alabama, 8,844; Texas, 8,381; Tennessee, 8,100; Mississippi, 7,744; North Carolina, 5,321; Florida, 5,091; Illinois, 4,554; Arkansas, 4,184; Kentucky, 3,916; South Carolina, 3,858; Missouri, 3,706; Pennsylvania, 3,569; Ohio, 3,219; Maryland, 2,221; West Virginia, 2,052; Oklahoma, 1,807; Indiana, 1,167; New York, 1,127. Each of the remaining States has less than 1,000 Negro

WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 25. — Figures showing the number and classification of Negro employees of steam railway lines, as summarized by the Department of Labor, conclusively show the entrance, advancement and permanency of employment of Negro workers in one of the most important industries of the country. In all, there are 136,065 Negro rail hands who are directly engaged in handling or safeguarding the transportation of persons or property over the lines of the various steam railway carriers of the United States.

Negro railway employees are usually thought of as porters, and the 136,065 total contains train and Pullman porters in the number of 20,224, of whom 23 are colored women. The other classified railway occupations, however, show that rail transportation workers of the Negro race are in no wise confined to providing traveling comforts and performing domestic service for passengers. In fact, the summary shows that there are two Negro officials and superintendents of rail lines, located in Ohio and Florida. Ninety-seven Negro telegraphers, well distributed over the country, are actually engaged in safeguarding passengers and property. There are 111 engineers and 6,473 firemen; 202 inspectors of way and structures; 202 telegraph and telephone linemen; 33 conductors; 111 baggagemen and freight agents; 2,874 switchmen and flagmen; 1,195 foremen and overseers; 2,377 boiler washers and engine hostlers; 4,485 brakemen; 95,713 laborers; and 1,961 workers, employed at miscellaneous occupations, such as ticket agents and station hands, who are not classified in official listings. The total includes an appreciable number of female employees who work as porters, laborers, telegraph operators, etc. The New York State

ing States has less than 1,000 Negro rail workers, New Hampshire, with its 1 brakeman, 2 laborers and 1 switchman, completing the list. The summary plainly shows that avenues of employment in the transportation industry are rapidly being opened to the colored worker and that his future in this phase of employment has a particularly bright aspect.



Labor—1924.

Occupation, Wages, etc.

# A FEW FACTS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT INCREASING USE OF COLORED LABOR

## Philadelphia Employers Not Availing Them- selves of Negro Labor Like in Other Sections —Those Employed in Pittsburgh Steel Industry Increased From 8,000 to 21,000

By FORRESTER B. WASHINGTON  
(Executive Secretary the Armstrong  
Association, of Philadelphia)

The Negro is making rapid progress in industry, both qualitatively and quantitatively, in many sections of this country. This is due to several causes, among which are the labor shortage caused by the legislative limitation of immigration and the fact that the largest employers of labor in the country have discovered that the Negro is a more efficient laborer and can be taught to become a better mechanic than those races which now make up the bulk of the immigration from Europe.

We are convinced that the future labor supply of this country, not only in the unskilled and semi-skilled, but to a considerable extent in the skilled occupations, will have to come from Negro groups.

We are surprised to find that according to the latest reports of the United States census, and from our own investigations and observations that employers in the Philadelphia district are not availing themselves of this valuable Negro labor supply as are employers in other sections of the country. May I briefly discuss in the following paragraphs what Negroes are doing in productive industry in certain other sections of the country.

### Pittsburgh District:

The largest number of Negroes employed in the iron and steel industry in Pittsburgh district at any one time

prior to 1916 was 2200. The largest number employed at any time during the war was 8000. On August 1st, 1923 (six months ago—latest figures) there were 21,000. These figures show the rapid increase in the use of Negroes in this basic industry, and also show that the cessation of the World War had no effect on their numbers. In fact, there are actually three times as many Negroes working now as during the peak period of employment in the World War.

Of the 21,000 Negroes now employed in the iron and steel industry in this district, the number of skilled total something over 5,000 or about 20 per cent. As a matter of fact, Negroes are found in every occupation in the steel industry. While 20 per cent is a large proportion of skilled workers the figure would be still larger if it were not for the fact that the companies themselves rate the number of skilled jobs very low in order to pay for as little skilled work as possible. Authorities claim that there are actually four times as many men doing skilled work as the companies admit.

As regards efficiency, Negroes have broken all kinds of productive records in the steel industry with smaller working forces than other racial groups. Negro molders have broken so many records that it is no longer a question as to whether a Negro molder can get in the Pittsburgh district but rather as to whether there is a molder's job open.

In the steel and wire industry in the same district Negroes have broken so many records in wire drawing that

## General.

this occupation is now looked upon as the Negro's job. It is one of the best paying jobs in the district.

Perhaps one or two specific instances will help in visualizing just the progress made by Negroes in the Pittsburgh district. Negroes are gradually being advanced according as they show qualities of dependability, efficiency and leadership. Foreign leaders of Negro gangs are gradually being displaced by Negro bosses. This policy seems to have been adopted by several corporations, even where Negroes form less than one-third of the gangs. In one plant employing 2,875 Negroes, there are 35 Negro straw bosses directing the work of 883 men, 273 of the laborers being foreigners. In most of the larger steel mills, usually an equal number of Negro straw bosses can be found. The greatest difficulty previously experienced by Negroes entering the mills was the lack of sympathy and understanding and oftentimes hostility shown them by these foreign straw bosses. One result of the increased use of Negro straw bosses is the reported length of time three-fourths of the Negro employees remain in the mills. It has been increased from an average of one month during the war to three and a half months at the present time.

The experience of Negro labor in two steel mills, the Parks Works of the Crucible Steel Company, and the Clark Mills of Carnegie Steel Company can be cited to give a better indication of how well Negroes may ultimately intrench themselves in larger plants into which they are just being absorbed. Both of these plants introduced Negro labor more than 30 years ago. They have used an increasing number ever since. The Parks Works employs about 25 per cent Negroes and the Clark Mills 42 per cent. Negroes are employed as grinders, heaters, shearers, choppers, rollers, ruffers, squeezers, crane operators, in fact, work on practically every job in the mill. Both plants employ Negro millwrights who repair all the machinery. In addition the Parks Works has a Negro chemist in charge of three subordinate chemists. They also employ a Negro draftsman. At one time a Negro civil engineer was employed. At the Clark Mills according to their own statements, no limitations were placed on Negro workmen. They cite the case of "Daddy Clay" who developed into one of the greatest experts on shaft steel in Pittsburgh. For years he earned from \$15 to \$40 a day.

As for the mills recently entered by Negroes, there are unusually illu-

minating evidences of the progress they have made in more skilled work. Bonuses on every ton, run the workmen's pay up to \$20 per day, frequently.

### Railroad Work:

A certain railroad plans to put to work 13,000 more Negroes this spring. At least it has employed our organization to set up a program of organized welfare work in preparation for the employment of such a number of new Negro employees. They are to be used chiefly in the shops and round houses of the railroad on unskilled, semi-skilled and skilled occupations. It is because the use of Negroes in such employment is new that this railroad has asked us to work out a plan of housing and recreational activities for these men.

### Detroit:

Out of a Negro population of about 75,000 in Detroit, 40,000 adult males are at work. The Ford Motor Company normally employing 100,000 in its Detroit plant includes among them about 7,500 Negroes. The Dodge Brothers Motor Company employs 4,000 Negroes and the Packard Company employs approximately 1,000. There are 496 more firms employing Negroes in that city, 35 of which have more than 100 Negroes on their pay-roll.

### Chicago:

It is a well known fact that one of the most important industries in the country is the meat packing industry. In this very important business 15,000 of the 40,000 persons employed in Chicago are Negroes. The vice-president of the Stock Yards Labor Council, the great union body which controls the labor situation in the yards, is a Negro.

### THE SOUTH

#### Birmingham, Ala.

Negroes work in all departments of the steel mills in this city, likewise in all the occupations of the coal and iron mines. They are found in all branches of the building trades. The largest building firm in the city of Birmingham, is conducted by Negroes, namely, the Booker Brothers, Atlanta, Georgia. Negroes have a building corporation capitalized for one million dollars, which has just built a two hundred and fifty thousand dollar school building. This firm is known as the National Service Corporation and has its own Negro structural engineers and architects who are graduates of such northern and southern technical institutions as the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cornell University and Hampton Institute.

#### Savannah, Ga.

Here also Negroes are found in all branches of the building trades. A Negro building firm here handles government building contracts. It is headed by a Negro named Evans, who is a graduate of the Engineering School at Cornell.

#### Tide Water Section, Va.

(Including Newport News, Va. and Norfolk, Va.) There are over 5,000 Negroes employed in the shipyards of the Tide Water Section of Virginia. They perform every kind of mechanical work that is required in this very important industry. They work in the United States Navy Yard as general mechanics in Norfolk, Va.

#### Durham, N. C.

In this city the leading building contractors are Colored. A Negro named Winston does most of the building work for the Duke and Blackwell families, millionaire tobacco manufacturers. Negroes are found here in large numbers in all branches of the tobacco industry. Here is the home of the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company, a Negro old-line legal reserve company which has fifty-two million dollars of insurance in force, twenty million dollars of resources, two million in capital and two hundred and fifty thousand dollars invested in its own buildings. Moreover it maintains two banks. There are several Negro manufacturing enterprises in this city including a Negro knitting mill.

#### High Point, N. C.

This city, which is known as the Grand Rapids of the South, (because it is the second largest furniture manufacturing city in the country) has the best type of skilled Negro labor in the country. There are hundreds of Negroes employed in all departments of its furniture factories. Negroes do all the fine cabinet making here. They do everything from sawing out the rough lumber to turning intricate pieces of furniture. Negroes are also found doing skilled work in the glass factories of this city. There are many Negro glass blowers.

#### Winston-Salem, N. C.

The industries of this city are said to pay the highest salaries to Negroes of any city in the country. Many Negroes earn from \$50 to \$75 per week in the Reynolds Tobacco Co.

### Other Advantages of Using Negro Labor

The Negro has habits, customs, and standards of living more like that of the genuine American than has the foreigner. In addition to learning American industrial processes, the foreigner has to learn American habits, customs and standards of living. The only thing the Negro has to learn is the industrial processes and only a



limited number of Negroes have to be taught these. It must be borne in mind that included in these habits and customs which the Negro possesses along with the white American is that of similar cultural demands, and the like. Hence, the Negro presents tremendous advantages to the employer, (if the latter knew it) over his industrial rival from Europe.

The surplus Negro labor of the South, together with that of the North is adequate for practically all the industrial needs of the United States for many years to come. There are, roughly, eight million Negroes in the South and four million Negroes in the North. The industrial system of the South is so inefficient that one-tenth of the Negroes of the South could do all the necessary work. The white South has never been drawn upon for its contribution to its industries. Of course, there is no real economy in this situation. It is all a relic of slavery. The sooner the South abandons this industrial system the better it will be for everyone concerned, black as well as white.

#### Mishandling of Negro Labor in the North

The representatives of every other race but the Negro, when they present themselves at the employment gate, are asked what they can do. The Negro is usually relegated in eastern Pennsylvania to the unskilled groups without any questioning. This is poor vocational selection.

A Philadelphia employer will put a Negro chauffeur in charge of a high powered automobile with all its complicated mechanism and trust him to drive through the ever changing problems of street traffic. Yet that same Philadelphia employer will not put the same Negro on a drill press which is almost automatic in its operation and is so geared and fastened to the floor that it can't get away, and which presents no problems of adapting a delicate mechanism to changing situations such as exists in driving an automobile.

#### MANUFACTURER SAYS NEGRO IS WINNING PLACE.

#### Officer of Hardware Company Tells of Experiences in His Plant.

"The Negro is succeeding in northern industry. If the south hopes to hold him on the farms, the southern white man must realize that he has an important problem to solve in providing better conditions and better treatment." E. E. Adams, vice president of the Cleveland Hardware Co., declared at the annual meeting of the Negro Welfare Association in Cleveland, Ohio.

The meeting was held at the Sterling branch library.

In an experience of many years with Negro workers in his factory, Mr. Adams said he had found that they could produce as rapidly, remained as steadily in the jobs and in general were equal to white workers.

"The problem of assimilating the Negro into industry is not so great as assimilating certain European races," Mr. Adams contended.

"Negroes coming north now are mostly city dwellers," he said. "Industrial agents are picking their men. The greater part of the continuing migration is a result of letters which are written back by friends who are already in the north."

Mr. Adams said in one of his plants were 442 colored employees and 557 white men and said the competition was friendly.

The annual report of William R. Connors, executive secretary of the Negro Welfare Association, showed 2,051 men had been placed on jobs. Applying for jobs were 5,527, of whom 2,011 had been in Cleveland less than a month.

Officers of the association elected were Dr. O. A. Taylor, president; W. T. Anderson, vice president; R. J. Frackleton, treasurer, and Rev. W. B. Suthern, secretary. All were re-elected except Rev. Mr. Suthern, who succeeds Hazel Mountain Walker.

## \$4,200,000 ORDER FOR FAIRFIELD, L. & N. NEW CARS

#### CHICKASAW TO BUILD 1,800 PIECES OF ROLLING STOCK AT ONCE

The Louisville and Nashville Railroad Company has placed contracts with the Tennessee Coal, Iron and Railroad Company, Fairfield works (Chickasaw Shipbuilding and Car Co.) for 1,800 freight cars, the cost of which will be over \$4,200,000.

Official announcement was made Friday through the office of James A. Morrison, superintendent of the South and North Alabama Railroad, Alabama Mineral Railroad and Birmingham Mineral Railroad, of the Louisville and Nashville.

Mr. Morrison's statement follows: "This company has closed contracts for the construction of 3,900 freight cars, of which the Tennessee Coal,

Iron and Railroad Company (Chickasaw Shipbuilding and Railroad Co.), was awarded the following: 1,150 standard 40-ft 50-ton box cars; 500 standard 40- 50-ton automobile cars, and 150 standard 40-ft 50-ton flat cars.

"This involves an expenditure in the Birmingham district of more than \$4,200,000, which represents 47 per cent of the total order."

This and other orders which the Tennessee Company has received for freight cars in the last few days will enable the plant to resume operations on full turn for some time. Other business is said to be in store.

The Louisville and Nashville has had a policy for many years of placing as much of its business as possible in the Birmingham district. Realizing that this district is one of the best paying on the system, the rail road has shown a willingness to reciprocate and when the announcements were forthcoming that material or appurtenances were needed, it was almost a foregone conclusion that some of the business, a large proportion, would be placed here.

The order just announced by the Louisville & Nashville Railroad was anticipated several days ago, but the official announcement was not made by Supt. Morrison until Friday morning.

Superintendent Morrison, in making the announcement, was modest. "About all I can say," he said, "is what is embodied in the statement made as to the placing of the contract."

The Louisville and Nashville has orders with the Tennessee Coal, Iron & Railroad Company for a large quantity of steel rail to be delivered during this year, tie plates and other products and now the car order.

The Chickasaw Shipbuilding and Car Company has not been as actively in operation as it might have been for some time. The announcement that orders had been received in the district for 6,900 cars is now being verified. The report in industrial circles is that further orders are pending in the near future and there may be steady operation for a long time to come at the big Fairfield works. The steel is furnished by the Ensley plant, the entire work being done between Ensley and Fairfield.

This order by the L. & N. Railroad is another expression of the faith and confidence in the business ability of the Birmingham district and its laborers. This order will increase the employment of Negro men to a large degree and hundreds of the skilled work-

men of the Tennessee Company will find ready and continuous employment. And because of this attraction as well as many others, hundreds of the race group will be finding their way to Birmingham and vicinity. The laboring interests of this district must be greatly encouraged over this order as well as other great advantages being offered here.



Labor—1924.

I.

Occupation, Wages, etc.,

# PULLMAN PORTER WINS AS COLLEGE LECTURER

*The New York Times* 4-13-24 New York, N. Y.  
John Baptist Ford, Who Made Four Hundred Dartmouth  
Students Look at His Profession With New Eyes,  
Talks of Traveling Public.

By R. L. DUFFUS.

**H**E is one of a uniformed and disciplined private army, which varies in size from 10,000 to 14,000 men, and whose enlisted men may be encountered from coast to coast, wherever wheels meet rails. To the traveler he is personified in a whiskbroom and a palm which is never awkward in intercepting a silver coin. He implies upper and lower berths, the clean, laundered smell of unfolded sheets, midnight snores echoing down curtained corridors, and all the rest—in short, he is part of that typical American institution, the Pullman sleeping car.

Indeed, he is himself an American institution. Without his large, flat feet and his engaging Southern accent the stage and the humorous press would be seriously handicapped. Next to the mother-in-law and the now practically obsolete hayseed, he is one of the joke manufacturer's most valuable raw materials.

In age he varies from 18 to 70; in education from being barely able to pass the entrance examinations for his job to a knowledge of medicine, law, theology or even business which would out to shame many of the passengers whom, as he puts it, he "hauls." Despite these eccentricities it is his duty to be as impersonal as he can, and to the hard-boiled traveler he seems a thing almost as completely standardized as the car in which he rides. From Portland, Me., to Portland, Ore., and from Duluth to Miami, he is universally hailed as "George." He is not supposed to get tired, or have feelings, be ambitious. He is set aside for the making of beds and the blacking of boots.

Yet, paradoxical as the statement may seem, he is, behind his buttons, a human being. Let one take, by way of illustration, John Baptist Ford of 760 East 221st Street, New York City, who collects the tickets, serves the coffee and sandwiches and acts as porter on the parlor car which runs daily over the New Haven line between New York and Winsted, Conn.

Every night Ford sleeps on his car at Winsted. At 6:45 in the morning he starts for New York, where he arrives at 10:23. If he is lucky he gets home by 11:30. Four hours with his family and he leaves again, to take his car

back to Winsted on the 4:25. Such is his life—a pretty useful one, according to those who have occasion to travel frequently between New York and stations on the New Haven line.

Chance one day dragged Ford, at least temporarily, out of the obscurity of eighteen years of Pullman service. One of his passengers happened to be Professor Malcolm Keir of the Amos Tuck School of Administration and Finance at Dartmouth College. It was a dull day and Mr. Keir got into conversation with the porter. When he got off the train he took Ford's name, and not long afterward the latter received an invitation to address Professor Keir's class in transportation at Dartmouth—a class which was also to be addressed, later on, by half a dozen high railway officials and eminent students of railway problems. It is about as difficult for a porter to break loose for such an engagement as it would be for a President of the United States, but after the request had been sent to the Pullman Superintendent in New York and relayed to the head office in Chicago, John Baptist Ford was formally authorized to proceed to Dartmouth and there stand and deliver.

It was Ford's first public speech. He sat up night after night working out what he was to say. He rewrote it ten times, then, when he reached Dartmouth, handed the notes to the newspaper reporters and made the speech out of his own head. Some time in the course of the first five or ten minutes he and his audience simultaneously discovered that he was not only a good porter but a natural-born orator. He even handled with all the skill of a trained parliamentarian the efforts of hecklers to find out how much a tip ought to be, whether rich or poor tipped best, whether you could tell a man's income by the way he acted on the train, whether men or women gave the most trouble, whether newly married persons always betrayed themselves, and whether Mr. Coolidge, who, as Vice President, rode on the Winsted express, differed markedly from the general run of passengers.

Professor Keir had arranged that Ford should deliver three talks in successive hours to the three sections of his class—about a hundred students in all. But by the end of the first hour the news was spreading through the college community, and by the beginning of the

third hour virtually every student and professor who could break his engagements was trying to crowd into the lecture room. Professor John M. Merklin, author of a recent work on the Ku Klux Klan, brought over his class in sociology in a body. After the lecture Ford posed for photographers, gave interviews to the local newspapers and departed amid cheers. He had furnished a sensation Dartmouth would not soon forget. He had made four hundred boys look at porters with new eyes.

## Audience Did Not Scare Him.

He elaborated some of his views to a reporter of THE NEW YORK TIMES several days later.

"It was my first speech all right," he said, "but I wasn't scared—not after I got started. Some of the boys had got up some catch questions for me, but they didn't catch me. One of them wanted to know how much a traveler ought to tip. I told them, 'Let your conscience be your guide and the sky your limit.' That made them laugh.

"I can't say what proportion of my passengers do tip. Sometimes more than half of them don't. But I treat those who tip exactly as well as those who don't. I haven't any contract from the Pullman Company, written or oral, that I'll get any tips. But you can figure it out for yourself. A porter's wages range from \$65 to \$86 a month, which is what I am getting as porter and conductor-in-charge. Now, take the case of a man who's running to Chicago on the Century. He makes maybe six trips a month and on each trip his expenses are at least \$6. His rent runs from \$50 up, and probably he has a family. He may not have more than twelve or fourteen passengers in his car, for people on the crack trains don't like to take upper berths. You can see where he'd be if he didn't get tipped. He'd be running in, left.

"Of course most of the men do make a living out of it. If they didn't they wouldn't stay. As a rule a man who sticks out the first two years—they're the hardest—stays permanently in the service.

Porters by Day, Students at Night.

"That isn't always the case, though. In the Summer the Pullman company takes on three or four thousand extra

General.

men, who are mostly students. Some of them are going to be doctors, lawyers, ministers or business men, and they manage to do their studying in the slack time at night. I was studying to be a minister, though I'm past that now. Most of the boys go back to school in the Fall, but some stick for a year or so, and some never go back. I know a couple of doctors—brothers—who stayed ten years in the service after they'd taken their degrees. They were saving money all the time. When they'd got enough they set up in practice."

Ford hasn't realized his original ambition, but he has pulled himself up a good bit in the economic scale.

"At 17 years of age," he told the Dartmouth students, "I could not read or write. This was not my fault or that of my parents. I was a cotton picker in South Carolina. Twenty-three years ago I worked for \$5 a month and my board and saved money to pay my way in school for two months, so that I could learn to read and write. When the two months were up I was in debt to the college to the amount of \$5. The President of the school took a liking to me and gave me a job looking after the fires. I was given my schooling and clothes as pay.

"I kept that job one year. After that I was pot-washer and worked my way up to chief cook for three hundred students, going to school at the same time. I spent one half-term in high school."

## Ford Receives His Badge of Office.

After leaving school Ford worked as a butler and then as a bellboy. At 22 a porter's job seemed a dazzling step upward, and after three months' apprenticeship, which he spent in cleaning cars, he was allotted his whiskbroom and berth key and set forth on his travels. One of his first trips carried him to San Francisco, and later he ran to St. Louis.

"A porter begins as an extra," he said; "he doesn't make much, but he does get a chance to travel. Maybe he'll be deadheaded to Buffalo. Then, perhaps, he'll be put on a car going to Chicago and from there he may go to the Pacific Coast. The young fellows like it, because it gives them a chance to get experience and see the country. But after a while they get tired of the long runs, ruined my stomach running to St. Louis. That's why I'm on the short run now, where I can get good regular meals and be home part of every day.

"In 1908, when I was running to St. Louis, I was on the road one trip twenty-eight hours without sleep. I came into New York at 6 P. M. one day and stepped off one train onto the next one going back to St. Louis. My wife was at the point of death with a fever of 104 and I could not get home. I had to do my work just as usual and have a smile for every one. As it happened, my wife got well, but that's one experience I wouldn't like to repeat."

Other experiences are more agreeable. In Summer, on the Winsted line, Ford

carries a pail of hot water to heat the babies' bottles, and he enjoys that part of his work. Once a woman left \$2,000 in a purse which Ford found and returned. Other valuables he has found and returned include a \$500 ring, a \$500 breastpin, a \$250 ring, and three coats worth from \$200 to \$300 each. He has "hailed" most of the millionaires of the country, with the exception of Henry Ford, and can't see that they differ much from ordinary men.

Ford has pronounced opinions on most subjects. The problem of capital and labor seems to him simple.

"Some people ask me why porters don't join a union," he said. "Well, I don't think unions are necessary. I think relations between employers and employees are getting better all the time. What we need in this country is not more labor unions but more Christianity. I think that's coming, too."

When Ford gets off his train at the Grand Central and winds up his business at the Pullman company's office he takes the subway to East 221st Street, walks several blocks, and mounts to the second floor of a two-family house which he is buying, with a relative, on the instalment plan. At the top of the stairs he is met by Buster, otherwise known as Stanley, aged 4. Ruth, aged 14, is a student in the preparatory department of Hunter College, where she has already won a gold medal. Eugene, aged 11, is also going to school, and all three of them will go through college if John Baptist Ford can manage it. He has transferred his ambitions to the second generation, and the cotton picker's children are to have every educational opportunity that America affords.

The public may hear more of John Baptist Ford, for he has already been asked to broadcast his lecture on portering, and he may be induced to make more speeches. THE NEW YORK TIMES interviewer took some pains to persuade Ford to complain about human nature, especially human nature as it reveals itself on Pullman cars. The attempt was a failure.

"I get along all right," he said. "I've never had a bit of trouble with any one." "Yes, but isn't there anything the public can do to make the porter's lot easier? Isn't there any message you can give?"

John Baptist Ford reflected for some moments. "Well," he answered at last, "if I could mark their baggage plainly, so that it wouldn't be misplaced. And they might be more careful getting on and off the cars."



# NEGRO "LEAVENS" NORTH'S INDUSTRY

Detroit Judge Says South Thus  
Mitigates Sordidness and  
Greed

## FINDS RACE BETTER OFF

The presence of the Negro in the industrial system of the North is the leaven which lifts it from "sordid dullness and selfish greed," according to Judge Ira W. Jayne, of the Circuit Court of Detroit, who last night addressed the second day's session of the annual conference of the National Association for the Advancement of the Colored People. He spoke in the First African Baptist Church, Sixteenth and Christian streets.

Nearly 200 delegates, from every section of the country, were present, in addition to hundreds of local visitors.

James J. Davis, Secretary of Labor, also spoke, making a plea for equality of all citizens regardless of race or creed. "I listened in on the nominating speech for Governor Al Smith today by radio in Washington," he said, "and I wish the delegates from a certain section of the country attending the convention would let one thing sink in: 'Al Smith stands for equality under the law.' So do we all. We can't maintain a Government without it."

The topic of other speakers in the evening was the Negro migration to the North. In the afternoon the subject was "Meeting the Challenge of the Klan."

Declaring that the Negro preferred \$7 a day in the North to \$7 a week in the South and "ten months' equal schooling in the North to two months' slighted schooling in the South," Judge Jayne expressed the hope that the Negro who had come North would stay.

"The Negro is a man. He is here," the Judge said. "He is a workingman, respected and respectable. I hope the Negro stays until he has learned all there is to know of this industrial system which is at once our salvation and our despair. I hope the Negro leavens its sordid dullness with that inextinguishable joy and rhythm which have brought him unscarred through the crucible of slavery and degradation. I hope the Negro leavens selfish greed with the innate loyalty and faithfulness which have always been his, even in his reputation among his enemies."

The migration of the Negro to the North may serve to revolutionize the type of the race, Robert W. Bagnell, of New York, director of branches of the association, told the conference last night. "It will probably make him quicker and keener, more intelligent and aggressive, more given to organization, more familiar with the advancing civilizations and forward movements. Who

can say that the skilled workers of the Nation may not be found in his group? Who can say that through city dwellings his docility may not utterly disappear? Or it may be that the farms of the North and West may some day be peopled with black faces. Certainly it is that it brings to the Negro a day of opportunity such as he has never had before, which he must strive to improve until full opportunity and full freedom are his."

The South must mend her ways if the Negro is to remain, said Mr. Bagnell. "When the Negro leaves the South," he continued, "he procures better treatment for those who are left behind as the result of the Southern whites' fear of further migration and does much to end the atrocities of lynching and snobism. The South, in spite of its boasts, cannot get along without the Negro, and so, if he continues to leave, she must mend her ways to keep enough there to get along at all."

The Negro women of the country were called to battle with the Ku Klux Klan by Mrs. Marguerite Edwards, of Atlantic City, who took part in the discussion on the Klan in the afternoon.

The Rev. Garnet R. Waller, of Springfield, Mass., called for a union of all the churches to counteract the Klan propaganda that was "seeping its way through the country."

Dr. W. W. Wolfe, of Newark, spoke on "A Definite Campaign in Meeting Propaganda of the Klan." He urged more money, education and organization. Herbert Seligman spoke on "Press Publicity as an Anti-Klan Weapon."

## INDUSTRIAL DEPRESSION AFFECTS COLORED AMERICA

In order that colored working men of this community, as well as business and professional men, may plan their affairs intelligently, the Armstrong Association plans to release from time to time information regarding changes in the economic and industrial conditions of the country as they affect colored people, especially in this locality.

The Armstrong Association, through its industrial department, has recently made inquiry in twelve cities representing the largest production centers in this country, as to the present state of industry with respect to Negro employment. In two of these the report shows a reduction for the past six months of 5 per cent. One showed reduction of 10 per cent, one showed reduction of 25 per cent, three a reduction of 30 per cent, and five showed a reduction of 40 per cent, making an average of 28 per cent. This in itself is bad; but by far the most alarming part is shown in the Negro populations of the cities affected.

While there is no great alarm over the present state of industry, very many production managers express concern owing to the breakdown in the program of "full steam ahead with no side-tracking."

The claim was made that during the period of the war production for general consumption had fallen so far short that it would take several years to catch up. The industrial depression of 1920-21 was interpreted as a period of readjustment of credit and a time to realize on inventories. When industry again started on a full production basis in 1922, the belief became almost a certainty that now business was headed straight through on a prosperity schedule which nothing could stop. The fact is, however, industry has slowed down, production seems to have caught up with demand and we find a general report throughout the great industrial sections that employment is being reduced from 5 to 40 per cent, or a general average of around 28 per cent, this, too, when it had just emerged from a period of depression which had reduced employment in the basic industries from 25 to 50 per cent.

# MIGRANTS MAKE GOOD

(Southern Workman)

What has the Negro done in Northern industry? The opinion, in general, of employers is that Negro workers have made good and that in time they will have an equal chance with the white man to do skilled work. While on the one hand, the largest number of Negroes is in the iron and steel plants and in those fields which require extended work and heavy labor, there are many other occupations in which they are engaged. This is indicated by a report of the Department of Labor issued in July, 1923. This report showed a wide range of employment including such typical pursuits as are necessary to produce iron and steel, foodstuffs, leather, machinery, tobacco, automobiles, paper bags, copper goods, boilers, billiard tables, brass articles, chains, bricks, oil, saws, wire, railroad equipment, rubber, glass, textiles, china, cement, and various other articles of necessity and comfort, together with numerous occupations in construction, railroad work, and transportation. The 273 firms reported on by the Department of Labor were employing a total of 60,427 Negroes, of whom 45,470 were unskilled and 14,957 skilled workers; that is, 24 per cent, or almost one-fourth, were doing skilled work, or, putting it another way, the number of skilled Negro workers in these firms in twelve months increased 38.5 per cent.

Opinions concerning the efficiency of Negro workers in Northern industries vary. The results of an investigation of their efficiency published in the "Iron Trade Review" for September, 1923, state that "expressions from Northern iron, steel and other metal-working establishments pertaining to the efficiency of Negroes vary as widely as do those with regard to white aliens. Some have found them good, others bad or indifferent. It is observed that Negroes are cleaner in their personal habits than some of the European aliens. They use the shower baths more often; they are of a happier disposition, easier to get along with; are less suspicious and more tractable than foreigners of the quiet, sullen type. Another thing in favor of the Negro is that he understands the English language."

Dr. Frank Crane

(DR. FRANK CRANE is writing exclusively—in Alabama—for The Montgomery Advertiser and The Birmingham News. Articles published under his name in any other Alabama newspapers are reprint matter from 5 to 12 years old. Most of Dr. Crane's essays appearing in other papers have appeared already at the time of their original release years ago. Only The Advertiser and The News are printing the fresh, previously unpublished articles of Dr. Crane.)

\* \* \*  
GEORGE.

Why do all Pullman travelers call the colored porter "George"?

There are other names as Thomas, and Gilbert and Ebenezer and so forth, but the Pullman porter remains George in spite of all their efforts to enjoy other denominations. It looks as though he had been the recipient of a promise made in Holy Writ: "I will give them an everlasting name which will not be cut off."

There is a Society for the Prevention of Calling Pullman Car Porters George, which society is supposed to be out to get a hundred thousand members. It took in one hundred at one fell swoop the other day in Washington, including all Senators who have George for first name or last. Georges Clemenceau and George M. Cohan are honorary members and George Washington is

the patron saint. Every member takes oath to call no porter by the name of George. In spite of this the condition continues. There is no use talking against a universal custom. It is said that while George Washington may have been the Father of his Country, George M. Pullman was the Father of the Sleeping-car service. It is possible that George remains the cognomen of preference because it is smooth-sounding and euphonious. He might have been called Tom, after Uncle Tom, but Tom is too much like a diminutive and suggests tom-toms and tomahawks. George, however, fits the mouth and is full sounding. There is no accounting for names. Why was Nicholas applied to Old Nick, and does tom-tom refer to a sort of drum, and does Paul indicate Paul Pry? George has an honorable ancestry but that reaches back to St. George, the killer



# Occupation, Wages, etc.

## Migrant Workers Benefit By Big Business Boom In Pittsburgh Steel and Iron

Thousands of Negro migrants from the South who have found employment in the manufacturing and industrial plants in and about Pittsburgh have benefited by the big increase in volume of output which is announced this week. Thousands of dollars are earned by the race weekly. With wages going up and business in general booming, 1924 bids fair to set a new record for production similar to those made during the World War days.

Added to the increased operation of steel plants throughout the district, steel interests declare the outlook is so encouraging that many manufacturers are booking orders far into the second quarter and even are giving thought to enrolling commitments for the third period.

With practically all big steel plants in a position to again turn out their war-time production, it is significant that a majority at this time are considering the increase of their output. Large outlays for improvements, the rebuilding of mills that are out of date and new additions to increase their tonnage indicates, according to highly placed steel men, that the industry is going forward by leaps and bounds—in fact, getting beyond the expected boom stage that has been materializing since the sluggish period following the intense war activity of 1917 and 1918.

Millions of dollars will be expended by the United States Steel Corporation on its varied and subsidiary plants in the Pittsburgh, Youngstown, New Castle, Sharon, Farrell, Homestead and Duquesne districts. Between \$6,000,000 and \$8,000,000 is to be utilized in bringing the big Homestead plant of the Carnegie Steel Company to a high point in efficiency in modern steel manufacture. Other plants of the corporation located in this district and the Mahoning and Shenango valleys are to be placed on a larger production basis—in fact, every steel plant of the corporation is to be modernized.

Indications are that the Trumbull Steel Company, in increasing its finishing mill capacity, may add butt weld pipe mills to roll merchant sizes of tubes. President Jonathan Warner states that the band, hoop and strip mills of the company will roll skelp for pipe up to six inches in diameter.

**NEGRO MECHANICS IN  
ELMIRA INDUSTRIAL  
PLANTS TOTAL 800**

### Skilled Workers Find Many Opportunities and Door Is Open to Other Dependable Workers.

Industrial opportunities in less congested communities than the larger cities of the North, East and West were told by J. J. Burnell of 612 Clinton street, Elmira, N. Y., who is employed as a machinist in the round house shops of the Lackawanna Railroad Company in that city.

Mr. Burnell was in New York City this week, and in an interview given a representative of The Age, stated that from 500 to 800 colored men in Elmira were employed in the various industrial plants of that city, including the L. F. France Eng. Co., builders of most of the fire engines used in America; the Kennedy Valve Co.; the Willis-Morrow Co., and the American Bridge Works.

In these plants, said Mr. Burnell, a large proportion of the colored men are doing skilled work as boiler makers, lathe hands, machinists, molders, engine watchers, pattern makers, pipe fitters, etc., each group having also a corps of semi-skilled helpers. In addition, there is a large number employed at ordinary labor. There is no distinction in the scale of wages.

### Doors Open to Others

In company with Mr. Burnell at the time of the interview was Flournoy Jef-

erson of 100 West 139th street, who was, from July, 1922, to July, 1923, employed in the Lackawanna round house as a boiler maker. He substantiated the statement made by Mr. Burnell, and added that he had been told by officials of other plants in Elmira that the doors of their plants would always be open to competent dependable colored labor.

Mr. Burnell said that the Rev. J. R. Flack, pastor of the Douglass Memorial A. M. E. Zion Church, was planning with him a way by which openings in the Elmira industrial plants could be made known to prospective migrants able to fill the prospective positions. This proposition, he said, was in line with the suggestion made by The Age in its issue of January 19 that the National Urban League and other welfare agencies should take the initiative in bringing about a wise distribution of the new workers migrating from the South.

There are from 1,500 to 2,000 colored residents of Elmira, said Mr. Burnell, and most of them who have been there more than a few months are owners of their homes.

of dragons, and the four Georges of English history, down to Georges Carpentier, who fell several times for the glory of his country. There is no diminutive of George. It probably represented a farmer in the first place as Virgil's Georgics have held their place amongst the classics for years.

George is also a name most American minds with tyranny as they remember King George III as the author of those pre-revolutionary measures which caused the American Revolution.

Perhaps the name of George appeals to the American sense of humor as the porter of a Pullman car is at everybody's beck and call and is farthest removed from a grant.

Perhaps this calling of a Pullman porter by the name of George is a species of reasoning lucus non lucendo which appeals to the American mind. At least there is no use trying to get the Americans to stop it.

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SEP 28 1924

# Negroes Steadily Recording Progress

BY REV. SUTTON E. GRIGGS.

The late Benjamin Kidd, one of the greatest social philosophers of our times, in the course of an article written concerning the colored people of the United States, said: "No more important point can be won for a people from which to uplift itself than the right of equal economic opportunity."

Taken with education, business and economic influences are the greatest levelers in the world."

In an address delivered in London, Hon. George Harvey, at that time U. S. ambassador to Great Britain, said that economic laws take precedence over all other laws.

Booker T. Washington grasped quite clearly the need of an economic footing for his people. On the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the founding of Tuskegee, he said: "If this country is to continue to be a republic its task will never be completed as long as seven or eight millions of its people are in a large degree regarded as aliens, and are without voice or interest in the welfare of the government. Such a course will not merely inflict great injustice upon these millions of people but the nation will pay the price of finding the genius and form of its government changed, not perhaps in name but certainly in reality, and because of this the world will say that free government is a failure."

Although Washington was looking forward to the higher things of life for his people, he never for an instant lost sight of the supreme importance of an economic foundation. In an article written for the New York Independent, he said: "The professional class will be helped in proportion as the rank and file have an industrial foundation so that they can pay for professional service."

The close connection between the higher things of life and economic opportunity is illustrated by the career of Roland Hayes, a colored man, who has won international fame as a singer. The prestige which he now enjoys has its roots in the manual toil in which he engaged. A colored newspaper publisher in Boston, Mass., says of him: "He was compelled to turn his hand to odds and ends of menial tasks to earn sufficient money to pay for his education. He was from the backwoods of the south, his mother had toiled for his and her daily bread."

We approach, therefore, the question of the economic opportunity of the colored people in this part of the country with the feeling that we are dealing with one of the weightiest matters that can be considered.

## Where Colored Has Advantage.

Madison Grant, in his book "The Passing of the Great Race," holds that too much sun and rays that are too direct are not good for the Nordic race. The white people of the north, largely of Nordic blood, have shown their agreement with this opinion by yielding the sun jobs to the colored people. This fact is of vast economic importance because it gives to the colored people a vast area free from the intense competition with one of the most vigorous and aggressive types of men. Sheltered by the rays of the sun the colored race could hold its own indefinitely.

In the north the advantages are on the side of the white man. If in the years to come, through the slowing down of work or the natural increase

of the white population competition for work becomes very keen, the colored man will be at a decided disadvantage. This keen competition may not come within the next 50 years, but any nation or race blessed with real statesmanship is looking much farther ahead than the next 50 years. The Encyclopedia Britannica says that "the African is essentially a child of the moment." The colored people of America must forever discard that African trait, even as the white people of America dispensed with the monarchical ideas of the lands from which they came.

## Negroes Progress In Memphis.

There are many cities where special lines of labor are open to colored people, but the claim is made for Memphis that the colored people come more nearly penetrating the whole field of industry than in any other city in the country. Those who will take the pains to inquire will find them in the most unexpected places and in many cases drawing unexpected wages. Making no pretense whatever of covering the entire field we cite a few examples illustrating the way colored people are employed.

The American Car and Foundry Company employ about 400 colored men. These men do all the steel erecting work and are paid wages according to their ability. Their pay ranges from \$2.50 to \$7 per day. They are preferred to foreign help, and they seem to prefer their employers, some of them having worked in this shop for more than 30 years.

The Frisco shops employ about 250 colored men. They draw salaries ranging from \$72 to \$160 per month.

The Illinois Central freight house employs about 200 colored men. Their pay is \$3.20 per day.

The Memphis Terminal Corporation employs about 600 colored men. Forty of these men have been with the company for about 18 years. This company reports that it has never had trouble with but two of its men, and states that they were led off by a bad element.

The Edgar-Morgan Feed Company employs about 40 colored men. Some of these men have been with the company for 20 years. The head of the firm reports that there has never been any trouble between the firm and its employees. The men all carry life insurance policies to the amount of \$500, and for this each man pays 10 cents weekly.

The James J. Carrigan Company employs 19 colored men who draw from \$15 to \$35 per week. There are fish dressers, packers and salesmen.

The Memphis Packing Corporation employs about 50 colored men, and is much pleased with the character of their services. About three-fifths of the employees have been with the business since it opened several years ago.

The Orgill Brothers & Co., wholesale hardware, employs about 75 colored men, some of which have been there for 20 years. At death each employee's family is given free the equivalent of a year's salary.

## Business Progress.

These firms are not selected because they are exceptional. The situation herein pictured is quite general.

The economic opportunity afforded the colored people of Memphis makes it possible for them to develop along business lines. While the progress

made in business has not kept pace with opportunity yet, it is encouraging. There are two colored banks with resources aggregating something more than \$1,380,000. There are two insurance companies employing about 750 persons. One of these companies, formed recently, has a paid up capital stock of \$100,000. There is a casket company with a business valuation of \$200,000. Recently it declared a dividend of 7 per cent.

According to statistics compiled a few years ago the colored people of the city have wealth amounting to more than \$8,000,000, with about \$4,000,000 in the various banks of the city. There is one colored man in Memphis said to be worth a million dollars, two worth a quarter of a million, three over \$100,000 each, and 10 more than \$25,000 each.

The colored people of the city have five private parks, four business colleges, 107 colored churches (66 of which are Baptists and 27 Methodists), 25 dentists, eight lawyers, 86 physicians, 87 barber shops, eight drug stores, two candy manufacturing companies, 16 blacksmith shops, three commercial photographers, four cemeteries, 20 coal and wood dealers, 26 boarding houses, 76 grocery stores, 76 cleaning and pressing establishments, 54 colored expressmen, six furniture dealers, 194 hair dressers, two hat renovators, three jewelers, 20 music teachers, 60 dressmakers, three newspapers, two print shops, 130 restaurants, 28 soft drink stands, 56 shoemakers, 12 taxicab stands, 14 undertaking establishments, one X-ray specialist, one eye, ear, nose and throat specialist and six hospitals.

## In Territory Adjacent to Memphis.

There is an abundance of evidence of the fact that there is economic opportunity for the colored people in the territory adjacent to Memphis. We knew of one colored man in this territory rated as a millionaire. There are at least two others said to be worth a quarter of a million dollars each.

Much of the capital used to launch commercial enterprises in Memphis has come from the colored people of the rural districts. Many of the splendid residences owned by the colored people of the city were bought and paid for with cash by colored people from the rural districts. Recently a man who lives within a few miles of Memphis purchased a residence in the city of Chicago for \$20,000, paying \$10,000 cash.

There is a plantation in the Memphis territory that affords employment for more than 14,000 colored people. On this plantation there is not a jail nor an officer of the law. There are numerous churches and schools and a splendidly equipped modern hospital. A rural life college is being planned. Out of his earnings on this plantation one man has purchased a farm of a thousand acres and others have purchased valuable city property.

## Negro Educational Opportunities.

But Kidd's formula quoted above represented the greatest of all levelers as being business and economic influences accompanied by education. That draws us logically to the consideration of the opportunity afforded to the colored people by Memphis. In the city there are 18 public schools manned by 275 teachers. The teaching force is paid for the entire year.

Recently some splendid structures have been erected for the colored school children, and money has been set aside for the erection of a technical high school at a cost of \$200,000.

Shelby County, in which Memphis is located, has some very splendid schools and school buildings for colored children.

In addition to the public schools, Memphis has two institutions of learning that do academic work, Howe Institute and LeMoyné Institute. Howe Institute has an enrollment of 350 students and buildings and equipment valued at \$62,000. It is owned and controlled by the colored people. A number of white people make annual contributions to this school.

LeMoyné has an enrollment of 436. A teaching force is maintained at a monthly cost of \$4,500. Northern benevolence and the tuition of the students are the main sources of support for this institution. Some contributions are made from time to time by white and colored friends of the school.

## The Drift of Things.

But an important factor in any situation is the trend of things, the direction in which things are moving. The relations between the races are cordial and tending in the direction of becoming more so. The leaders of the two races are working together more than formerly. Recently the white people took the lead in the raising of a fund of \$25,000 for a proposed colored orphanage. Greater progress was made in the past two years in looking after the educational needs of the colored population than had been done in the forty preceding years.

Lynching has been suppressed in the state. For several years past no colored man has been lynched, although two white men have suffered that fate within that period.

The daily newspapers are uniformly sympathetic with the progress of the colored race, opening their columns freely for all news of progressive movements handed them.

The right of suffrage is freely accorded to colored men and women on terms of equality with the whites, and political contests are staged in a manner that permits the colored voters to have as much chance to influence the results as any other element.

Within recent years there have been some striking manifestations of the disposition to mete out justice in the courts without regard to race. The right of self-defense has been recognized in a signal way where the jurors have been white and the accused were colored, charged with having taken the lives of whites.

Let it be clearly understood that it is not the purpose of this article to represent conditions in Memphis and the Memphis territory as being ideal. They are not ideal. There are many problems here of a grave nature that are yet to be worked out. But in the light of Kidd's statement that "taken with education, business and economic influences are the greatest levelers in the world," it is indeed a rash prophet who will put a limit to the degree of success that the colored people and the white people will have in reaching a mutually satisfactory adjustment of whatever problems confront them.

## Commercial Development Needed.

There may be some who think that the colored people have made sufficient progress to enable them to discard the southern part of the United States as a field of economic opportunity. According to Dr. Emmett J. Scott, secretary-treasurer of Howard University, former private secretary to the late Booker T. Washington, the wealth of the colored people in the United States is \$1,110,000,000. Dividing this among 12,000,000 colored people would give to each one \$92.50, our per capita wealth. The wealth of the white race divided among the white people would give them \$1,963 each, which means that the per capita wealth of the white race is more than 20 times as great as ours.

The wealth of the people of Florida during the period from 1912 to 1922 increased \$1,501,294,000, or \$101,294,000 in excess of the total accumulated wealth of all the colored people of the nation. During the same period the wealth of Maryland increased \$1,783,770,000, or \$673,770,000 more than the total accumulated wealth of the colored people. In 1912 the wealth of the people of Tennessee was \$1,844,633,000. Ten years later it was \$4,228,253,000, showing an increase of \$2,380,620,000. This increase is double the increase of the wealth of all the colored people for the entire period of their stay in this country, with \$155,620,000 to spare.

Since economic laws, according to Mr. Harvey, take precedence of all other laws, these figures make it very clear that the colored people need to give far more attention to their commercial development. And, looking at the question from the standpoint of racial development, nothing seems plainer than that attention should be given to the improvement rather than the surrender of an area offering an opportunity to help solve the economic problems of the race.

## Looking Ahead.

There are more colored insurance companies needed, more banks to be opened, more business enterprises of all kinds to be fostered, more orphanages to be maintained, and more colleges and universities to be established and endowed. If the white people

of the north should withdraw their help now we would be in a shocking condition. And, surely, every self-respecting colored man is looking forward to the day when, as a part of the great American commonwealth, we shall be able to carry our own load in a way for it to be seen plainly that we are carrying it.

The whole of America should be kept perfectly free for all colored people to go whenever and wherever they may choose. There should be no coercion of any sort in this matter. On the other hand, in view of the unyielding fact that the great need of the colored people is economic strength, and in view of the further fact that economic opportunity exists here on a broad scale, all patriotic Americans, and especially colored Americans, should extend a full measure of sympathy and co-operation to those leaders and to the rank and file who, knowing and facing all the odds, are patiently, doggedly, mile by mile, or, if need be, inch by inch, laying an economic foundation, sure and steadfast, upon which others of their kind in the coming years may build the greatest civilization thus far erected by colored people in any age of the world's history.



Labor—1924.

Occupation, Wages, etc.,

Georgia.

of the 22 000 colored men and women working in every department of the postoffice department. The assertion that Chief Clerk Gainey was a native of Georgia born and reared in Savannah brought forth round after round of applause.

## JOHN D. GAINNEY IN ADDRESS TO NEGROES

Colored Postoffice Employees  
Stage Banquet Here.

By C. T. Woodland

John D. Gainey, assistant chief clerk in the railway postal service and the first negro to be appointed to an official position in the post office department, as guest of the local colored employees in the city delivered an inspiring and enlightening address at a banquet given in his honor last night.

Chief clerk Gainey gave a detailed account of the workings of the department and admonished his hearers to be loyal to the service and courteous to the public and they would maintain the high rating they have received on account of their efficiency and conscientious service.

After introductory speech by Toastmaster A. B. Bamfield, a few of those present were called upon to make preliminary remarks preceding the address of the occasion, at which time Chief Clerk Gainey was introduced and entered into an address which for inspiring qualities would be hard to surpass. After citing the instances that led to the appointment of a negro as assistant chief in the railway mail service, the speaker astounded his hearers with a recital of facts relating to the progress made by negroes in the postal service. He said: "In the postal service today there are 22,000 negroes employed and among that number is a negro superintendent of a station in New York where the postal savings in one year amounted to one and one half million dollars; a chief examiner in the Indianapolis, an assistant superintendent in the general post office in New York and a clerk in charge in the Cincinnati postoffice."

The fact which aroused the greatest interest was the information given to the effect that Ethel Drayton, a colored girl railway postal employe, was the fastest mail distributor in the United States. The speaker urged the postal employes to lend their every effort toward making the greatest revenue producing agency of the government efficient and worthy of commendation on account of their having a part in its operation.

Chief Clerk Gainey was appointed about a year ago for the specific purpose of adjusting grievances arising in the railway mail service but his extraordinary qualifications attracted the attention of other department heads in the postal service that now he is the representative



Labor—1924.

Occupation, Wages, etc.

HOUSTON TEX CHRONICLE  
FEBRUARY 15, 1924

## Darkey Pays Big Interest Rate Till Principal Jumps

A poor and unsuspecting negro workman, who paid and paid and paid on three small loan agency debts, until he could bear the burden no longer, Thursday made known his plight in spite of the danger of losing his job.

As with other large concerns, it is a rule with the Texas and New Orleans that where an employe makes an assignment of wages he stands to lose his job.

Henry Washington, negro employe of the Texas and New Orleans, made a misstep on March 30, 1923, according to his own story, when he borrowed \$30 from a loan agency. Having paid more than 100 per cent interest on the debt out of his meager savings, he was forced to borrow again on the eve of the last "June-teenth," and he made another misstep when he secured \$20 from another loan agency.

Having paid 140 per cent interest on the two small loans without having touched the principal of \$50, Henry hoped to obtain temporary relief from his troubles and avoid a report being made to his employers by negotiating still another loan from an agency. He obtained \$70. This proved the "last straw," for when he had paid \$85 interest he was informed that the principal had been raised to \$100 and he discovered that what he believed to be a note for the money was an assignment of his wages.

Henry consulted a lawyer, and the lawyer induced Judge J. D. Harvey of the Eightieth District Court to grant a temporary injunction against the loan companies to prevent a report being made to the railroad company officials.



Labor - 1924.

Occupation, Wages, etc.

## LABOR MAKES GOOD IN SHOE PLANT

Colored Operators At Work  
Doing Every Process Of  
Shoe Manufacture  
Here

### FOREMAN IS COLORED

A successful attempt to widen its employment opportunities for colored men and women has just been brought to the attention of this paper by the Muskin Shoe Company of this city.

On February 9th, of this year, this company organized a division in which it was planned that all processes of shoe making would be carried out by colored employees. Mr. Frank Parker, 1209 Harlem avenue, who had gained a working knowledge of shoe manufacturing trade in factories in Canada, was made manager of this department.

Although all of the men and women taken into the plant had to be trained by Mr. Parker, the success of this department has been such that the company is making an addition to its building to take care of this division. When this addition is complete colored people here will have an opportunity to engage in every operation in shoe making from cutting to finishing.

#### WORK PAYS WELL

Since work in shoe factories is generally piece work, colored employees will have the same wage scale as other workers. Some of the girls now in the plant are making \$18 weekly, and some of the men are expected to develop their pay to \$12 per day. Mr. Parker told a reporter for this paper that he could use a number of both men and women in this department, but what is wanted are steady men and women who want permanent employment.

48 COOKS, 148 WAITER  
EMPLOYED BY B & O

These Men Hold Only The  
Skilled Jobs on Country's  
Oldest Railroad

### UNSKILLED ARE MANY

Flagmen, Switchmen, Coal-  
handlers and Track Work-  
ers Number Thousands

By Kennard Williams

To thousands of colored people a railroad means the Baltimore and Ohio, which is the oldest road in the U. S. A.. They live near it, and travel on it. But few know how many colored people the road employs.

*Afro-American*

The main office of the company located here, declares that Negroes are employed throughout the system in varied unskilled positions, maintenance of way, flagmen, switchmen and coal-handlers. Since a large part of these occupations are seasonal no figures may be quoted. Suffice it to say that the sum total is many thousands.

The strike sometime ago opened many new avenues to the colored man, but when peace came the "scabs" who had kept the trains running were fired and old workers got their jobs back. This did not happen, however, before Negro workers had demonstrated ability to do skilled work when opportunity is presented. On Southern roads Negro firemen, brakemen, hostlers and other classes of workers are the rule and not the exception.

Twelve Red Caps are employed at Camden Station to assist travelers with their luggage and direct them to trains. Cleaners and trunk handlers furnish no inconsiderable number to the station's staff at both Mt. Royal and Camden.

James Phillips, Assistant Superintendent of Dining Car Service, said this week, there were approximately 48 cooks and 148 waiters running out of the Baltimore office. Several of these employees were sitting in an ante-room awaiting an assignment to a run. A young chef named Smith, whose home is in Washington, was told to report aboard 1902 evidently to his satisfaction. Waiters who man the diners are a capable, adaptable set of men and generally seemed pleased with the treatment accorded them.

No better example of the efficient chef can be pointed to than Mr. George Nelson, who recently died. He presided over the culinary department of the private car of Mr. C. W. Galloway, vice-president of the road. Mr. Nelson, whose home was in Atholton, Howard County, had been in the service of the company for 15 years. At the first indication of illness he was sent to French Lick Springs, going from there to Colorado. A trip to California was contemplated when the

Known to folk who lived wherever the rails of the system lay, he was a favorite especially of the children along the right of way. Many the little sweet tooth did he satisfy with gifts of candy. Evidence of the esteem in which Mr. Nelson was held by Mr. Galloway was shown by the latter taking complete charge of all funeral arrangements, and had the last rites postponed until he was able to attend. Limousines were in Ellicott City available for all who desired to be present.

The late John Rich is also remembered as secretary to the president.

Maryland.



Labor—1924

Missouri.

## Occupation, Wages etc.

### MISSOURI PACIFIC RAILROAD APPOINTS COLORED REPRESENTATIVES.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., March 25.—It recently became known that Mr. R. S. Pettis, residing at 2911 a Pine street, has been appointed a special representative for the Missouri Pacific Railroad. The Missouri Pacific is the only road to appoint a colored man in this capacity of service. He is at present a train porter running between St. Louis and Kansas City, Mo. Mr. Pettis also is an organizer of the booster club over the entire system. A newly established organization sponsored by the officials of the Missouri Pacific.

When our reporter called on Mr. Pettis he made the following statement: I believe the step now being pursued by the Missouri Pacific railroad along this line will go far in helping to solve the Inter-Racial problems; I intend to do my best in performing the duty that has been assigned to me, realizing that man has but a life span in which to work and with which to measure. Therefore, I am calling first upon the colored employees, and second upon the entire Negro race for their support, and I assure you that success will be ours. Therefore we ask the public for that patronage. A campaign will be launched beginning March 20th, among the various clubs, and to succeed we are depending on your patronage over the Missouri Pacific through the Booster Clubs.

Following are the names of the representatives of the booster club who will participate in this campaign: S. Ewing, 2915 Lawton ave., St. Louis, Mo.; H. Janes, 1605 East 14th st., Kansas City, Mo.; R. I. Pettis, 1424 West Eighth street, Little Rock, Ark.; S. N. Johnson, 113 South 7th st., Monroe, La.; Arton Allen, 503 East 2nd st., Coffeyville, Kans.; Walter Allen, 2923 Grand avenue, Pueblo, Colo.; R. S. Pettis, 2911 Pine St., St. Louis, Mo., and 1525 Troost Ave., Kansas City, Mo.

HOBOKEN N. J. OBSERVER  
OCTOBER 10, 1924

## MANY WOMEN IN MISSOURI INDUSTRY

Women constitute an important factor in the industrial life of Missouri according to a bulletin on the hours and wages of women employed in Missouri establishments in 1922, which was recently issued by the Women's Bureau of the U. S. Department of Labor.

There were over twelve thousand or only \$9.80, the lowest of any in woman employees in the several industry included in the survey. Laundries of the clothing industry industries with a median of \$12.45 for 1919, according to census figures the women employees occupied a quoted in the report, not far from middle ground in the matter of wage opportunities.

The shirt and overall factories visited, employing approximately 2,500 women—the largest number in any manufacturing group reported showed that one-half of their women received less than \$10.90. The shoe factories, on whose payrolls were found almost as many women, offered better financial opportunities, one-half the women earning less than \$12.80. This group was surpassed by the workers in tobacco establishments, who showed a median of \$13.20.

In a number of industries women formed the bulk of the working force. For example in the establishments producing shirts and overalls over nine-tenths of the employees were women, the largest proportion in any industry in the state. Also, the feminine contingent constituted about one-half of the corps of workers in the tobacco factories.

The survey of the Women's Bureau covered 174 representative establishments—factories, stores, laundries, and telephone exchanges—located in 22 towns and cities throughout the state and employing approximately eighteen thousand women. Negro women comprised only 8.6 per cent. of the total number of women included.

In the matter of hour legislation for women, the report points out, Missouri may be classed among the moderately progressive states, having set up a 9-hour daily and a 54-hour weekly maximum. Many employers, however, proving themselves more progressive than the law, had instituted a shorter working day in their plants. Over a fifth of the women included had daily scheduled hours of 8 or less. On the other hand, over one-half of the women were employed in plants whose daily hours came up to the maximum permitted by law. The prevalence of the half holiday on Saturday brought a much larger proportion of the women within the legal maximum for weekly hours. Less than one-tenth of the women were required to put in a week as long as 54 hours, while almost a third had a regular week of 48 hours or less.

The facts concerning wages which were disclosed by the study were more thought provoking than those on hours. The average week's earnings of the 15,364 white women for whom data were secured were \$12.65; that is, one-half of the women earned more and one-half less than this amount. Even when consideration is limited to those who had worked a full week one-half of these women earned less than \$13.70.

Of all the manufacturing industries included, the electric products plants headed the list in respect to financial opportunities for wage-earning women since they showed the highest median, \$15.90. Wage data for telephone operators in 14 exchanges revealed a median of \$15.05. General mercantile establishments with a median of \$14.45 were considerably in advance of 5-and-10-cent stores which disclosed a median



Labor—1924

## Occupation. Wages, etc.

NEW YORK BANK EMPLOYEES  
COLORED TYPIST.

NEW YORK CITY, Jan. 25.—Officials of the Chelsea Bank have finally given our group recognition by employing in a clerical capacity, one of our workers in the person of Mrs. Florence De Loath Richardson. Mrs. Richardson was last week given notice that the temporary position as typist there, which she has been holding for the past three months would be permanent. 1-26-24

The appointment of Mrs. Richardson is due in a large measure to the untiring efforts of Elmer Bush, who, for several years, has been employed at the bank as special officer. Bush, the only one of our group to be employed there, has persistently fought and argued for some of our people to be employed in a clerical position. The decision of Manager Rapp to finally employ Mrs. Richardson, although a tardy recognition to the race, is one.

### Negro Labor and the Labor Unions of New York City

A preliminary survey of industrial distribution and union status of Negroes in New York City, made by the New York Urban League, shows some interesting figures.

There are 5,380 Negroes working as longshoremen and stevedores; 1,176 as firemen; 2,373 chauffeurs and expressmen, and 1,172 dairymen and teamsters.

Negro workers are admitted on equal basis with other workers in all of the union organizations except the waiters, hotel and restaurant employees.

It was reported that the Woman's Trade Union League had opened an employment department for women workers in laundries at 202 West 136th St., the New York Urban League building, in order to establish closer relations between Negro workers and organized labor, and the Laundry Workers' Union, No. 284, holds its weekly meetings in the same building.

A special committee has been formed by the League's Industrial Committee to deal with problems of the Negro in relation to labor unions.

N Y C WORLD

AUGUST 16, 1924

SHORT DAY LIKED  
IN STEEL MILLS.

New York.

COLORED HOD CARRIERS  
GET HIGH WAGES.

(Lincoln News Service)

New York, --- That the political situation is having no unfavorable effect upon the prosperous conditions, and that the democratic attempt to discredit the soundness of the economic policies of the Coolidge Administration is but a waste of time, is indicated by a recent survey made of the building labor conditions throughout the country. The survey states: "Current building trades wage rates per hour show that building labor now is getting peak wages, as follows: Bricklayers, \$1.12½ to \$1.75; carpenters, 70 cents to \$1.60; hoisting engineers, 50 cents to \$1.67½; hod carriers, 50 cents to \$1.25; pile drivers, 50 cents to \$1.12½; structural iron workers, 60 cents to \$1.50; common labor, 25 to 87½ cents. Present wage scales in St. Louis carry the highest rates in the country. In that city wage advances ranging from 10 to 25 cents an hour have been granted carpenters, hod carriers, hoisting engineers and common labor. Colored hod carriers have signed a new scale of \$1.25 an hour. Painters are demanding a rate of \$1.50 per hour, Monday to Friday, inclusive, and \$3.00 per hour for Saturday and Sunday. The common labor rate for the nation, as applied to pick and shovel men, is 55 cents an hour as against 54 cents for the preceding month. In New York, Chicago, Cleveland and some other large cities, laborers are getting from 75 cents to 87½ cents per hour.

## SURVEYS PROVE

Abolition of 12-Hour Shift in  
the Major Plants Found Beneficial After a Year's Trial.

NEITHER OWNERS NOR MEN  
WANT OLD METHODS BACK.

S. Adele Shaw Reports, However, Many Work Over Ten Hours, Others 7 Days a Week

The twelve-hour day in the major steel mills was abolished one year ago to-day, and experts agree the result has been beneficial.

Elimination, in part, of the twelve-hour day has brought results so satisfactory that neither manufacturers nor employees would consider a return to the longer hours, according

to a survey of steel labor conditions by S. Adele Shaw made public yesterday by the Cabot Fund. This fund has financed many researches in industrial problems, in particular the study of the twelve-hour day in the steel industry made in 1920 by Prof. H. B. Drury.

A similar survey by the periodical Iron Age reveals the conclusion that the abolition of the twelve-hour day has resulted in decided improvement in social conditions and has not appreciably affected production.

Many Work Long Hours.

Miss Shaw reports that notwithstanding that abolition, a large proportion of the men engaged upon basic steel processes still work more than ten hours a day, while the eight-hour men generally work seven days a week. The seven-day week in mills where continuous operation is the rule, which was partly eliminated during the depression of 1921, was re-established in 1922, and perhaps extended when the eight-hour day replaced the twelve-hour day in many of the works, the report says. It is emphasized that the steel industry has "by no means gone to an eight-hour day and a six-day week."

The survey quotes the Department of Labor to the effect that less than eight per cent. of the workers in blast furnaces work forty-eight hours or less a week, while six per cent. work eighty-four hours a week and thirty-two per cent. work sixty.

The report submits facts indicating that the increase in production cost as a result of the reduction in working hours would be relatively small.

"More than one company is operating its blast furnaces three shifts with no increase in the number of men over the two-shift operation," it says. "Testimony is overwhelming to the effect that the movement toward shorter hours has had a beneficial effect on production."

Cost Less Than \$35,000,000.

The cost of the reduced hours is expected by many steel authorities to prove considerably less than the \$35,000,000 a year the United States Steel Corporation estimated because of the indirect beneficial results. The social effect of granting additional leisure to thousands of workers is marked, says Miss Shaw.

The steel towns are becoming more normal in appearance, exhibiting less tension and a better spirit among the employees. On the other hand, an influx of Negroes and Mexicans to do the unskilled work has created special housing problems in many communities, it was found.

Presidents of the subsidiary companies of United States Steel and of independent concerns furnished the information on which the survey made by the Iron Age was based. It says that men employed on continuous work in blast furnaces, except those of United States Steel, work seven days a week, but are allowed a day off if they want it.

### The Seven-Day week.

In the Youngstown, O., district, according to independent companies, the 12-hour day has been almost wholly eliminated, but in the blast furnace and coke departments the 7-day week prevails, with the 8-hour day and the privilege of a day off. William P. Palmer, President of the American Steel and Wire Company of Cleveland, said his company had no 7-day week and no 12-hour jobs, and what was bothering its employees was that they could not get more than three or four days' work a week.

Homer D. Williams, President of the Carnegie Steel Company, and E. J. Buffington, President of the Illinois Steel Company, said their plants had also abolished the 7-day week and the 12-hour day, except in emergencies.

### Some Want Long Hours.

Independents in the Pittsburgh district have made some progress toward reducing working hours, but some companies have been inclined to yield in cases where employees wanted to work twelve hours a day to increase their earnings.

The Iron Age comes to the conclusion that the seven-day labor week is no more prevalent than before the change.

August Ziessing, President of the American Bridge Company of New York; W. B. Schiller, President of the National Tube Company of Pittsburgh; E. W. Pargny, President of the American Sheet and Tin Plate Company of Pittsburgh, and George G. Crawford, President of the Tennessee Coal, Iron and Railroad Company of Birmingham, told of abolishing long working hours in their works.

Andrew McIntosh

### Visiting City

Andrew McIntosh an old Savannah boy who has been living in New York for the past twenty-nine years, is paying a visit to his old home town and his friends are making his stay a pleasant one. He is much impressed with the many improvements that Savannah has made and especially so of the Negro businesses. Mr. McIntosh is head of the colored employees of the John Wannamaker department store of New York City, the largest store of its kind in the world, which position he has held for more than twenty years.

Knight Still  
Holds Record  
For Riveting

NEW YORK, June 5—(L. N. S.) Although after a remarkable per-



Richmond, Va. The **Carver** Episcopal Church which was founded 17 years ago at number 29 by Rev. J. W. Johnson, who is now pastoring St. Cyprian Church in 63rd street. A few years later Rev. Florida Howard, the present pastor, took up the work of Rev. Johnson; and the works of the Bethlehem Steel Corporation, in 1918, Knight drove 4,875 three-quarter inch rivets in a nine-hour day, or an average of better than nine a minute. For both speed and endurance Knight's record is still the world title. A riveter in the Scotland shipyards is also close to the riveting speed kings.

# 99th St., West Of Columbus Av Block of Homes

Colored Residents On This  
 Street Section Form One  
 Of The Most Homelike  
 Groups In Greater New  
 York.

CHURCH BODIES  
 HOLD SERVICES  
 IN THIS BLOCK

Several Women Have De-  
 veloped Business Enter-  
 prises—Prominent and  
 Well Known Figures Live  
 There.

Deep in the heart of the West  
 Side; just off Central Park West  
 is the most home-like settlement  
 in Little Old New York. It is  
 99th street west of Columbus  
 avenue.

To say that the residents of  
 this one block are good citizens  
 is obvious, but not because they  
 are colored nor owing to the  
 fact that in the one block are four  
 religious institutions.

St. Jude's Church.  
 In number 49 is St. Jude's

## St. John's Church.

Across the street in number 12  
 is St. John's Baptist Church of  
 which Rev. W. M. Morris has  
 been pastor for six years. The  
 membership is large. They own  
 the church site and operate an  
 employment department which is  
 conducted by Miss Mary Holt,  
 the office secretary.

Farther down the street in  
 number 70 is the Unity Baptist  
 Church of which Rev. H. C.  
 Lewis is pastor. Rev. T. W.  
 Wadsworth, residing in number  
 50, was at one time the pastor  
 of Unity Church.

The Disciples of The Kingdom  
 hold services in number 46 with  
 Joseph Mose as their lecturer and  
 metaphysician. He gives private  
 instructions to anyone and does  
 healing and the Lord knows  
 what else.

## Business Women.

In the block is a dressmaker,  
 a public stenographer and two  
 hairdressers that are among the  
 best in town.

Mrs. Jane B. Terry who started  
 dressing hair in her apartment is  
 now proprietress of an up-to-date  
 beauty parlor in number 9, which  
 she has operated since March.  
 In number 8 Mrs. Estella C. Lee  
 has been a hairdresser for nearly  
 nine years and still has a repu-  
 tation for good work.

Six weeks ago, Mrs. George  
 E. Carr opened a Southern Res-  
 taurant in number 69 and is build-  
 ing a good business.

Mrs. Elise Green has just  
 opened an ice cream parlor and

lunch room in number 4, while  
 in number 33, Mrs. M. Kelly has  
 the Central Park West Employ-  
 ment Agency.

Clarence Williams has another  
 family there to live; Isaac B. Al-  
 Employment Agency in number  
 45, while Felix Davilla has kept  
 an up-to-date barber shop for  
 years in number 11, and Charles  
 Crosby has successfully operated  
 a fish market for three years in  
 number 69 downstairs.

For ten years, George H. Pot-  
 ter has been tailoring at his own  
 shop in number 14 and is con-  
 sidered a real good tailor by his  
 many customers who have al-  
 ways been satisfied. His only  
 competitor is J. A. Alleyne who  
 has always worked at his trade  
 and for two years has been suc-  
 cessful as a ladies' and gentle-  
 men's tailor in number 16, next  
 door.

The higher profession is repre-  
 sented by J. Frank Thorp, doctor  
 of medicine in number 52, Ben-  
 jamin G. Gibbs, doctor of dental  
 surgery, in number 37 and H. R.  
 Clark, doctor of chiropractic in  
 number 26, his residence.

## Chauffeur's Exchange.

The Hygrade Chauffeur's Ex-  
 change in number 31 grew out of  
 an auto school which started  
 there three years ago. Emanuel  
 Laidley and William J. Doggett  
 are the proprietors and special-  
 ize in expert automobile men on-  
 the job.

Since April, H. Lorick has been  
 at the express business in num-  
 ber 41, having met with success  
 at the start and now he owns a  
 large motor truck which is kept  
 busy.

J. W. Long has been in busi-  
 ness for 27 years. The last 11  
 years he has been located in  
 number 35 as an expressman.  
 Long has been a citizen for a  
 long time and has a good social  
 bearing.

One of the striking figures of  
 the block is Mingo McCall, who  
 has been in business for 16 years  
 in number 35 where he now sells  
 confectionary, cold drinks and  
 lunches out in front with a clean,  
 orderly pool room inside.

Among the prominent men in  
 the block the name of John A.  
 Ross is familiar to all. After 14

years of residence in 99th street  
 with his step-father, Mr. Ross  
 has recently bought a home in  
 New Rochelle and moved his  
 family there to live; Isaac B. Al-  
 formerly of Boston, now in  
 number 12; Thomas C. Walker  
 in number 70; Ed Harris in num-  
 ber 25, until a few weeks ago;  
 are other old time residents.

The Apollo Boy's Club was  
 organized the first of this year  
 by Mrs. Alice G. Walker in num-  
 ber 70, who was one of the first  
 organists of St. Jude's Church.  
 The youngsters sold enough tick-  
 ets to hire two busses for an out-  
 ing a month ago. The members  
 of the club range in ages from  
 11 to 16 years, respectively, and  
 are in number seventy-one of the  
 smartest boys in this country.

Everyone knows and loves  
 Mother Green. Mrs. Mary Green  
 is the oldest citizen in the block  
 and lives in number 70 with her  
 son, William, a man of many  
 vacations.

West 99th street, opposite Cen-  
 tral Park has its good, devoted  
 housewives; men with brain as  
 well as brawn; and as many  
 children as the East Side, propor-  
 tionately and sweeter.

*N. Y. Age*

49 is St. Jude's



Labor—24.

Occupation, Wages, etc.,

## PULLMAN CO. GIVES WORK TO 1,700 RACE EMPLOYEES IN SHOPS

### Negro Men and Women Now Find Place in Every De- partment of Pullman Car Shops.

Perry Parker of Chicago, grand chairman of the Pullman Porters' Benefit Association of America, was guest of the local organization, the Central Division at an elaborate dinner served at Craig's, 102 West 130th street, Thursday evening, January 17.

The affair was arranged by a committee headed by T. E. Griffin, of 82 East 166th street. The Bronx, as chairman, the other members being George John M. Brown, representing the Jersey City men, said that the effort is and Sam J. Freeman. About forty guests were present. 5-26-24

Sam J. Freeman of 145 West 142nd street, a director of the national organization, and social worker and investigator of the New York Division, was master of ceremonies, and in addition to the address made by Director Parker, remarks were given by Fred R. Moore, editor of The New York Age, James H. Hogans, writer of Pullman Porters' column for The Age, and John M. Brown of Jersey City, one of the oldest men present in point of years of service, G. H. Sylvester and William H. DesVerney.

#### 1,700 Shop Employees.

Director Parker, who is also head of the Pullman Co. social workers, an investigator for the company, and a valued assistant to Vice-President Hungerford, supervises the social work among more than 1,700 colored shop workers in the Pullman employ, located at Chicago, Buffalo, St. Louis and Wilmington, Del. The company provides a social worker in each shop, guarding interests of the employees, providing recreation outlets, etc., for the workers.

In his address, Mr. Parker brought out some interesting facts. The Negro employees are engaged in every department of the company's activities, including the electrical division, the upholstery, painting, carpentry, cabinet making

mattress, laundry and machine departments. In the mattress and laundry shops in the various cities many colored women are to be found, some of them in supervisory positions.

Mr. Parker stated that when the new trains recently put into service on the wheel was put into place under supervision of a colored man, foreman of that department of work. The chief expert in the assembling of the triple valve brakes on Pullman cars is a colored man. He told also of the record made by a Negro lathe hand in the Buffalo shops, who turned out twenty-seven wheels in one day, creating a new record as against seventeen previously turned out by a white worker in one of the shops. And he said that one of the best acetylene welders in the country was a colored man employed in the St. Louis shops.

The Pullman Porters' Benefit Association of America is a beneficial organization, the membership composed of employees in the various divisions of Pullman service. It pays a weekly sick benefit and in case of death there is a \$1,000 benefit paid to surviving heirs. The association has cash resources at present of more than \$100,000, and only recently it deposited in one of the banks the sum of \$10,000.

John M. Brown, representing the Jersey City men, said that the effort is and Sam J. Freeman. About forty guests were present. 5-26-24

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## Bricklaying School In Harlem Fitting Mechanics For \$10-\$12 Per Day Jobs

About a year ago A. J. Grey jr., a contracting bricklayer, conceived the idea of helping to relieve the shortage of bricklayers and plasterers in Greater New York City by giving a short course in these trades to those who had been given some training in the industrial schools of the South, but who were unable to compete successfully against local mechanics. 5-26-24

Mr. Grey and Harry Williams, both of whom are graduates of the Hampton Institute Trade School, established the System School for Building Mechanics at 274 West 135th street about eight months ago and are meeting with marked success in securing work for colored mechanics in the building trades. Classes are held on Mondays, Wed-

nesdays and Fridays, day and evening, and the course requires about twelve

weeks. The school now has an enrollment of thirty and has turned out a number of men who have secured jobs and are making good. Cary Jones took the bricklayers' course and is now making \$12.50 per day; Dougal Brown, another student, is also making good as a bricklayer, and a number of other former students are making from \$10 to \$12 per day as plasterers.

According to Mr. Williams, who is the manager of the school, half of their job is to make the men think they can do the job. He says that while there is some discrimination against colored mechanics, the acute shortage of mechanics during the past year has made it possible for anyone who can do the work to secure a job.

In addition to bricklaying and plastering, cementing, tile-setting and plan reading are also taught.

New York.

## New York Urban League Notes.

The New York Urban League Executive Board met last week at the Fifth Avenue Bank. A report of the League's activities for the last quarter read by the executive secretary, James H. Hubert, showed many new developments.

The Women's Trade Union League has opened an employment department for women workers in laundries at the Urban League Building; a further step toward bringing about a closer relation between Negro workers and organized labor. Meetings of Laundry Workers' Union No. 284 are held once each week at the League Building.

A preliminary survey of industrial distribution and union status of Negroes in New York City has just been completed. The report shows, among other things: 5,386 Negroes working as longshoremen and stevedores; 1,176 firemen; 2,373 chauffeurs and expressmen; 1,172 dairymen and teamsters.

Practically all union organizations admit Negroes on the same basis, the only separate Negro locals encountered were those of waiters, hotel and restaurant employees.

Beginning July 1, a dental clinic is to be held at the Urban League Building, through efforts of the Harlem Dental Committee, under the chairmanship of Dr. Louis Hyman Fairclough.

The large number of requests for assistance in preparing for social work, both volunteer and professional, has made it necessary to organize a special course of study. The Urban League has sought the co-operation of the New York School of Social Work in arranging a series of lectures to begin early in the Fall. Courses in "Community Problems," "Child Welfare," "Industrial Relations" and "Mental Hygiene" are to be offered.

Attending the meeting were: Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Holden, Mrs. Augusta M. B. Corbin, A. S. Frissell, Miss Eva Bowles, Mrs. Anna J. Robinson, Mrs. H. P. McClendon, Mrs. J. J. Corn and John E. Nail.

Miss Eva D. Bowles and James H. Hubert were delegated to represent the New York Urban League at the National Conference of Social Work in Toronto on June 25.



Labor — 1924.

North Carolina.

Occupation Wages, etc.

# Lexington, N. C., Boasts Only Race Pressman In South; Operates Duplex Web Press

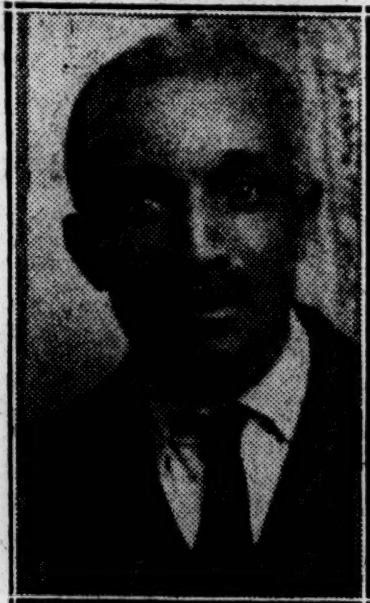
Helper for Years, Thomas  
R. Hartman Prepared  
Himself, and When Op-  
portunity Knocked, He  
Was Ready.

press time came. Tom took the wheel and with the assistance of the foreman the issue came forth. Another issue followed, and another, and the press work was going smoothly. The owner decided that if Tom could help out in a pinch maybe he could do the work regularly—and so the job just naturally fell to him.

LEXINGTON, N. C., Jan. 17. — This city has perhaps the only regular colored pressman in the South, if not indeed in the entire United States. In the old days of the Washington hand press there were numerous colored pressmen, strong colored men who did work about the country print shops usually drawing the arduous task of turning the press while the paper was slowly fed through.

Hartman was born and reared in this county, living at Linwood, six miles away, as a boy and young man. For fifteen years he was in the employ of J. W. Fitzgerald,

## Competent Pressman



Thomas R. Hartman

Who operates Duplex web perfecting press on N. C. paper.

Thomas R. Hartman, though, is operating another kind of press, a modern Duplex web perfecting press, which prints eight pages at a rapid clip and enables semi-weeklies and small dailies to do efficient and economic press work. He has been on the job now for more than a month during the heaviest run of the year and bids fair to remain in his post.

Hartman has been in the employ of The Dispatch, semi-weekly, which for years has laid claim to being the largest strictly local semi-weekly in the country published outside of a daily shop. As a weekly its circulation mounted as high as 10,000. A drive is on now to bring the circulation of the semi-weekly to around that figure. During the months of November and December the issues have ranged from eight to twenty pages, averaging perhaps twelve pages. This meant a double press run on most issues and a triple run on some, eight pages being the capacity at one run.

The subject of this sketch had been employed as general assistant around the print shop and also kept the boilers going in the building in which the paper, along with a number of offices and a job shop, has quarters, beside doing the tidying of the offices, throwing in forms, and served as assistant to the regular pressman, who had been on the job since the Duplex was installed about three years ago. He had observed closely. When the pressman gave notice he was quitting several weeks ago an effort to secure a trained man was unavailing — and

prominent farmer and merchant, and assisted him both about the farm and tasks around the store, including a good deal of the collecting — for his honesty was unquestioned. Ten years ago he moved to Lexington and a little over three years ago came to the paper. He is well liked by the owner and other employes as a faithful and hard-working man, who gives his best to the job before him. He is fifty-two years old, has been married twice, has four living children and two dead. He has saved and wisely invested his earnings, owns his own home and several building lots



Labor—1924

Pennsylvania.

Occupation, Wages, etc.,  
**Colored Woman Proves  
Best Shingle Bobber**

ALTOONA, Pa., Sept. 10.—(A. N. P.)  
The management of the Strand theater recently played the "Flapper." In connection with exploiting the picture a voting contest was held as to the most popular hairdresser in the city. Mrs. Grace Scott, a colored woman, was the winner. Her reward was some special cards, introductions from the stage of the theater, and the job of bobbing the hair of any in the audience who desired the new fashion at the expense of the house. She bobbed 74 heads in 21 hours of work in the foyer of the theater.



Labor - 1924.

Occupation, Wages, etc.,

South Carolina.

COLUMBIA, S. C.

MAY 3 - 1924

## **Healthful Negro in Sumter Is Decorated for Service**

**Richard Singleton, Crossing Watchman for Atlantic  
Coast Line, Retired After Fifty-three Years on  
Duty, Receives Diamond Set Gold Emblem,**

To the Editor of The State:

I am sure you will be interested to know that Richard Singleton, former negro crossing watchman for the Atlantic Coast Line, 302 Main street, Sumter, has been awarded the service emblem of the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad company, which, in accordance with our recently adopted practice, will in the future be awarded to all employees of this company who complete 50 years of service.

Singleton entered the employ of the company in 1870 and was retired on a pension in 1923, with a record of 53 years of service.

Fourteen of the emblems have been awarded thus far. The round pin is of gold, set at the top with a diamond. A blue band across the center carries the inscription, "Fifty Years' Service." In the upper half a winged hour glass denotes the flight of time, while sheaves of wheat represent the harvest of mature years. Below the band a laurel wreath, ancient symbol of honor and distinction, is shown on each side of a miniature of the well known Coast Line trade mark.

JOHN L. COBBS,  
Director of Public Relations.  
Wilmington, N. C.

above address.

Very truly yours,

Jno. S. Cobb, Jr.,  
Director of Public Relations.

MAY - 5 1924

## **SUMTER NEGRO SERVES A. C. L. MORE THAN HALF A CENTURY**

**Richard Singleton, Retired in 1923 on a Pension By Railroad Company, is Given Beautiful Gold Pin.**

Editor Sumter Daily Item:

I am sure you will be interested to know that Richard Singleton, former negro crossing watchman for the Atlantic Coast Line, 302 Main street, Sumter, S. C., has been awarded the service emblem of the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad Company, which in accordance with our recently adopted practice, will, in the future, be awarded all employees of this company who complete 50 years service.

Singleton entered the employ of the company in 1870 and was retired on a pension in 1923 with a record of 53 years of service.

Fourteen of the emblems have been awarded thus far. The round pin is of gold, set at the top with a diamond. A blue band across

the center carries the inscription "50 Years Service." In the upper half a winged hour glass denotes the flight of time while sheaves of wheat represent the harvest of mature years. Below the band a laurel wreath, ancient symbol of honor and distinction, is shown on each side of a miniature of the well known Coast Line trade mark.

It occurs to me that you can get from Singleton a story of how it feels to work more than half a century for one company which will be decidedly interesting to your readers. You can arrange to get in touch with him at the



Labor—1924.

Occupation, Wages, etc.,

Tennessee.

# Negroes Steadily Recording Progress

BY REV. SUTTON E. GRIGGS.

The late Benjamin Kidd, one of the greatest social philosophers of our times, in the course of an article written concerning the colored people of the United States, said: "No more important point can be won for a people from which to uplift itself than the right of equal economic opportunity. . . . Taken with education, business and economic influences are the greatest levelers in the world."

In an address delivered in London, Hon. George Harvey, at that time U. S. ambassador to Great Britain, said that economic laws take precedence over all other laws.

Booker T. Washington grasped quite clearly the need of an economic footing for his people. On the occasion of the 55th anniversary of the founding of Tennessee, he said: "This country is to continue to be a republic its task will never be completed as long as seven or eight millions of its people are in a large degree regarded as aliens and without voice or interest in the work of the government. Such a course will not merely inflict great injustice upon these millions of people but the nation will pay the price of finding the genius and form of its government changed, not perhaps in name but certainly in reality, and because of this the world will say that the government is a failure."

Although Washington was looking forward to the higher things of life for his people, he never for an instant lost sight of the supreme importance of an economic foundation. In an article written for the New York Independent, he said: "The professional class will be helped in proportion as the rank and file have an industrial foundation so that they can pay for professional service."

The close connection between the higher things of life and economic opportunity is illustrated by the career of Roland Hayes, a colored man, who has won international fame as a singer. The prestige which he now enjoys has its roots in the manual toil in which he engaged. A colored newspaper publisher in Boston, Mass., says of him: "He was compelled to turn his hand to odds and ends of menial tasks to earn sufficient money to pay for his education. . . . He was from the backwoods of the south, his mother had toiled for his and her daily bread."

We approach, therefore, the question of the economic opportunity of the colored people in this part of the country with the feeling that we are dealing with one of the weightiest matters that can be considered.

## Where Colored Has Advantage.

Madison Grant, in his book "The Passing of the Great Race," holds that too much sun and rays that are too direct are not good for the Nordic race. The white people of the south, largely of Nordic blood, have shown their agreement with this opinion by yielding the sun jobs to the colored people. This fact is of vast economic importance because it gives to the colored people a vast area free from the intense competition with one of the most vigorous and aggressive types of men. Sheltered by the rays of the sun the colored race could hold its own indefinitely.

In the north the advantages are on the side of the white man. If in the years to come, through the slowing down of work or the natural increase

of the white population competition for work becomes very keen, the colored man will be at a decided disadvantage. This keen competition may not come within the next 50 years, but any nation or race blessed with real statesmanship is looking much farther ahead than the next 50 years. The Encyclopedia Britannica says that "the African is essentially a child of the moment." The colored people of America must forever discard that African trait, even as the white people of America dispensed with the monarchical ideas of the lands from which they came.

## Negroes Progress In Memphis.

There are many cities where special lines of labor are open to colored people, but the claim is made for Memphis that the colored people come more nearly penetrating the whole

field of industry than in any other city in the country. Those who will take the pains to inquire will find them in the most unexpected places and in many cases drawing unexpected wages. Making no pretense whatever of covering the entire field we cite a few examples illustrating the way colored people are employed.

The American Car and Foundry Company employ about 400 colored men. These men do all the steel erecting work and are paid wages according to their ability. Their pay ranges from \$2.50 to \$7 per day. They are preferred to foreign help, and they seem to prefer their employers, some of them having worked in this shop for more than 30 years.

The Frisco shops employ about 250 colored men. They draw salaries ranging from \$72 to \$160 per month.

The Illinois Central freight house employs about 200 colored men. Their pay is \$3.20 per day.

The Memphis Terminal Corporation employs about 600 colored men. Forty of these men have been with the company for about 18 years. This company reports that it has never had trouble with but two of its men, and states that they were led off by a bad element.

The Edgar-Morgan Feed Company employs about 40 colored men. Some of these men have been with the company for 20 years. The head of the firm reports that there has never been any trouble between the firm and its employees. The men all carry life insurance policies to the amount of \$500, and for this each man pays 10 cents weekly.

The James J. Carrigan Company employs 10 colored men who draw from \$15 to \$35 per week. There are fish dressers, packers and salesmen.

The Memphis Packing Corporation employs about 50 colored men, and is much pleased with the character of their services. About three-fifths of the employees have been with the business since it opened several years ago.

The Orgill Brothers & Co., wholesale hardware, employs about 75 colored men some of which have been there for 20 years. At death each employee's family is given free the equivalent of a year's salary.

## Business Progress.

These firms are not selected because they are exceptional. The situation herein pictured is quite general.

The economic opportunity afforded the colored people of Memphis makes it possible for them to develop along business lines. While the progress

made in business has not kept pace with opportunity yet, it is encouraging. There are two colored banks with resources aggregating something more than \$1,380,000. There are two insurance companies employing about 750 persons. One of these companies, formed recently, has a paid up capital stock of \$100,000. There is a casket company with a business valuation of \$200,000. Recently it declared a dividend of 7 per cent.

According to statistics compiled a few years ago the colored people of the city have wealth amounting to more than \$8,000,000, with about \$4,000,000 in the various banks of the city. There is one colored man in Memphis said to be worth a million dollars, two worth a quarter of a million, three over \$100,000 each, and 10 more than \$25,000 each.

The colored people of the city have five private parks, four business colleges, 107 colored churches (66 of which are Baptists and 27 Methodists), 25 dentists, eight lawyers, 86 physicians, 87 barber shops, eight drug stores, two candy manufacturing companies, 16 blacksmith shops, three commercial photographers, four cemeteries, 20 coal and wood dealers, 26 boarding houses, 76 grocery stores, 76 cleaning and pressing establishments, 54 colored expressmen, six furniture dealers, 194 hair dressers, two hat renovators, three jewelers, 20 music teachers, 60 dressmakers, three newspapers, two print shops, 130 restaurants, 28 soft drink stands, 56 shoemakers, 12 taxicab stands, 14 undertaking establishments, one X-ray specialist, one eye, ear, nose and throat specialist and six hospitals.

## In Territory Adjacent to Memphis.

There is an abundance of evidence of the fact that there is economic op-

portunity for the colored people in the territory adjacent to Memphis. We know of one colored man in this territory rated as a millionaire. There are at least two others said to be worth a quarter of a million dollars each.

Much of the capital used to launch commercial enterprises in Memphis has come from the colored people of the rural districts. Many of the splendid residences owned by the colored people of the city were bought and paid for with cash by colored people from the rural districts. Recently a man who lives within a few miles of Memphis purchased a residence in the city of Chicago for \$30,000, paying \$10,000 cash.

There is a plantation in the Memphis territory that affords employment for more than 14,000 colored people. On this plantation there is not a jail nor an officer of the law. There are numerous churches and schools and a splendidly equipped modern hospital. A rural life college is being planned. Out of his earnings on this plantation one man has purchased a farm of a thousand acres and others have purchased valuable city property.

## Negro Educational Opportunities.

But Kidd's formula quoted above represented the greatest of all levelers as being business and economic influences accompanied by education. That draws us logically to the consideration of the opportunity afforded to the colored people by Memphis. In the city there are 18 public schools manned by 275 teachers. The teaching force is paid for the entire year.

Recently some splendid structures have been erected for the colored school children, and money has been set aside for the erection of a technical high school at a cost of \$200,000.

Shelby County, in which Memphis is located, has some very splendid schools and school buildings for colored children.

In addition to the public schools, Memphis has two institutions of learning that do academic work. Howe Institute and LeMoyné Institute. Howe Institute has an enrollment of 350 students and buildings and equipment valued at \$62,000. It is owned and controlled by the colored people. A number of white people make annual contributions to this school.

LeMoyné has an enrollment of 436. A teaching force is maintained at a monthly cost of \$4,500. Northern benevolence and the tuition of the students are the main sources of support for this institution. Some contributions are made from time to time by white and colored friends of the school.

## The Drift of Things.

But an important factor in any situation is the trend of things, the direction in which things are moving. The relations between the races are cordial and tending in the direction of becoming more so. The leaders of the two races are working together more than formerly. Recently the white people took the lead in the raising of a fund of \$25,000 for a proposed colored orphanage. Greater progress was made in the past two years in looking after the educational needs of the colored population than had been done in the forty preceding years.

Lynching has been suppressed in the state. For several years past no colored man has been lynched, although two white men have suffered that fate within that period.

The daily newspapers are uniformly sympathetic with the progress of the colored race, opening their columns freely for all news of progressive movements handed them.

The right of suffrage is freely accorded to colored men and women on terms of equality with the whites, and political contests are staged in a manner that permits the colored voters to have as much chance to influence the results as any other element.

Within recent years there have been some striking manifestations of the disposition to mete out justice in the courts without regard to race. The right of self-defense has been recognized in a signal way where the ju-

rors have been white and the accused were colored, charged with having taken the lives of whites.

Let it be clearly understood that it is not the purpose of this article to represent conditions in Memphis and the Memphis territory as being ideal. They are not ideal. There are many problems here of a grave nature that are yet to be worked out. But in the light of Kidd's statement that, "taken with education, business and economic influences are the greatest levelers in the world," it is indeed a rash prophet who will put a limit to the degree of success that the colored people and the white people will have in reaching a mutually satisfactory adjustment of whatever problems confront them.

## Commercial Development Needed.

There may be some who think that the colored people have made sufficient progress to enable them to discard the southern part of the United States as a field of economic opportunity. According to Dr. Emmett J. Scott, secretary-treasurer of Howard University, former private secretary to the late Booker T. Washington, the wealth of the colored people in the United States is \$110,000,000. Dividing this among 12,000,000 colored people would give to each one \$92.50, our per capita wealth. The wealth of the white race divided among the white people would give them \$1,963 each, which means that the per capita wealth of the white race is more than 20 times as great as ours.

The wealth of the people of Florida during the period from 1912 to 1922 increased \$1,501,204,000, or \$401,204,000 in excess of the total accumulated wealth of all the colored people of the nation. During the same period the wealth of Maryland increased \$1,783,770,000, or \$673,770,000 more than the total accumulated wealth of the colored people. In 1912 the wealth of the people of Tennessee was \$1,844,633,000. Ten years later it was \$4,228,253,000, showing an increase of \$2,280,620,000. This increase is double the increase of the wealth of all the colored people for the entire period of their stay in this country, with \$153,620,000 to spare.

Since economic laws, according to Mr. Harvey, take precedence of all other laws, these figures make it very clear that the colored people need to give far more attention to their commercial development. And, looking at the question from the standpoint of racial development, nothing seems plainer than that attention should be given to the improvement rather than the surrender of an area offering an opportunity to help solve the economic problems of the race.

## Looking Ahead.

There are more colored insurance companies needed, more banks to be opened, more business enterprises of all kinds to be fostered, more orphanages to be maintained, and more colleges and universities to be established and endowed. If the white people of the north should withdraw their help now we would be in a shocking condition. And, surely, every self-respecting colored man is looking forward to the day when, as a part of the great American commonwealth, we shall be able to carry our own load in a way for it to be seen plainly that we are carrying it.

The whole of America should be kept perfectly free for all colored people to go whenever and wherever they may choose. There should be no coercion of any sort in this matter. On the other hand, in view of the unyielding fact that the great need of the colored people is economic strength, and in view of the further fact that economic opportunity exists here on a broad scale, all patriotic Americans, and especially colored Americans, should extend a full measure of sympathy and co-operation to those leaders and to the rank and file who, knowing and facing all the odds, are patiently, doggedly, mile by mile, or, if need be, inch by inch, laying an economic foundation, sure and steadfast, upon which others of their kind in the coming years may build the greatest civilization thus far erected by colored people in any age of the world's history.



Labor—1924.

Occupation, Wages, etc.,

# Aged Colored Railroad Employee Has Longest Record--57 Years-- Of Thousands on Line's Payroll

NORFOLK VA VIRGINIAN PILOT  
MAY 11, 1924

**Austin Williams, With A. C. L.  
at Pinners Point Terminal,  
Proudly Reviews Long  
Period of Faithful Service  
to Company**

A story of contentment, of long and faithful service, and of proper recognition on the part of the employer, was brought to light yesterday at the Pinners Point terminal of the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad in the award of the company's 50-year service emblem to Austin Williams, aged colored employee.

Williams has been with the Atlantic Coast Line longer than any other employee, having first joined the construction gang as water boy in 1867 at Tarboro, N. C., where he was born. Since that time, through the 57 years, he has never left the road, nor has he ever found the company unwilling to take care of him in time of need.

The emblem presented to Williams, along with 14 other employees, is a round gold pin, set at the top with a diamond. A blue band across the center carries the inscription: "50 Years Service." In the upper half a winged hour glass denotes the flight of time while sheaves of wheat represent the harvest of mature years. Below the band a laurel wreath, ancient symbol of honor and distinction, is shown on each side of a miniature of the Coast Line trade mark.

## **Wears Pin Over His Heart**

Williams is employed now with the gang in the yards at Pinners Point, and fearing he may lose the pin, he wears it on his shirt, over his heart.

"When I joined the Coast Line," he said, "I joined as water boy at Tarboro. There was the days of wood burning engines and no headlights. The engineer sometimes was captain and boss of the gang."

"When I first started to work, the company paid me \$10 a month, and one peck of meal, five pounds of meat, and one quart of molasses each week as rations. Later they paid me \$12 a month, but cut down my molasses to a pint a week."

Williams has worked at many points along the line, "so many I don't reckon I can tell you all off hand," he says. When the Atlantic Coast Line opened its line from Tarboro to Norfolk, he was brought here and has remained here since.

"I don't remember just how long ago that's been either," he remarked.

## **Treated Well By Company**

Williams said he was perfectly satisfied with the treatment of the company and that everybody connected with the departments in which he had worked had treated him well. He was asked how he happened to start to work for a railroad and why he had never changed.

"Well, I'll tell you, sir, I just had to work somewhere, and it was right after the war, you see, and the Coast Line offered me more than I could get anywhere else. I got started and

just stayed on, and here I am today, after 57 years."

Williams, although 71 years old, stands 6 feet 3 inches and weighs about 175 pounds. He works with a gang in the yards at Pinners Point, loading and unloading lumber, which "sometimes now sort of strains my back a little trying to keep up with these younger men," as he expresses it.

But officials of the company say Williams is as good a workman as there is in the yard. He goes to work in the morning at 6 o'clock, cleaning up the tower house before joining his gang in the yard at 7:30.

## **Gets To Work At 6**

"You see, sir," he said, "I don't have to start until 7:30, but I usually get here about 6 so as to help clean up the office."

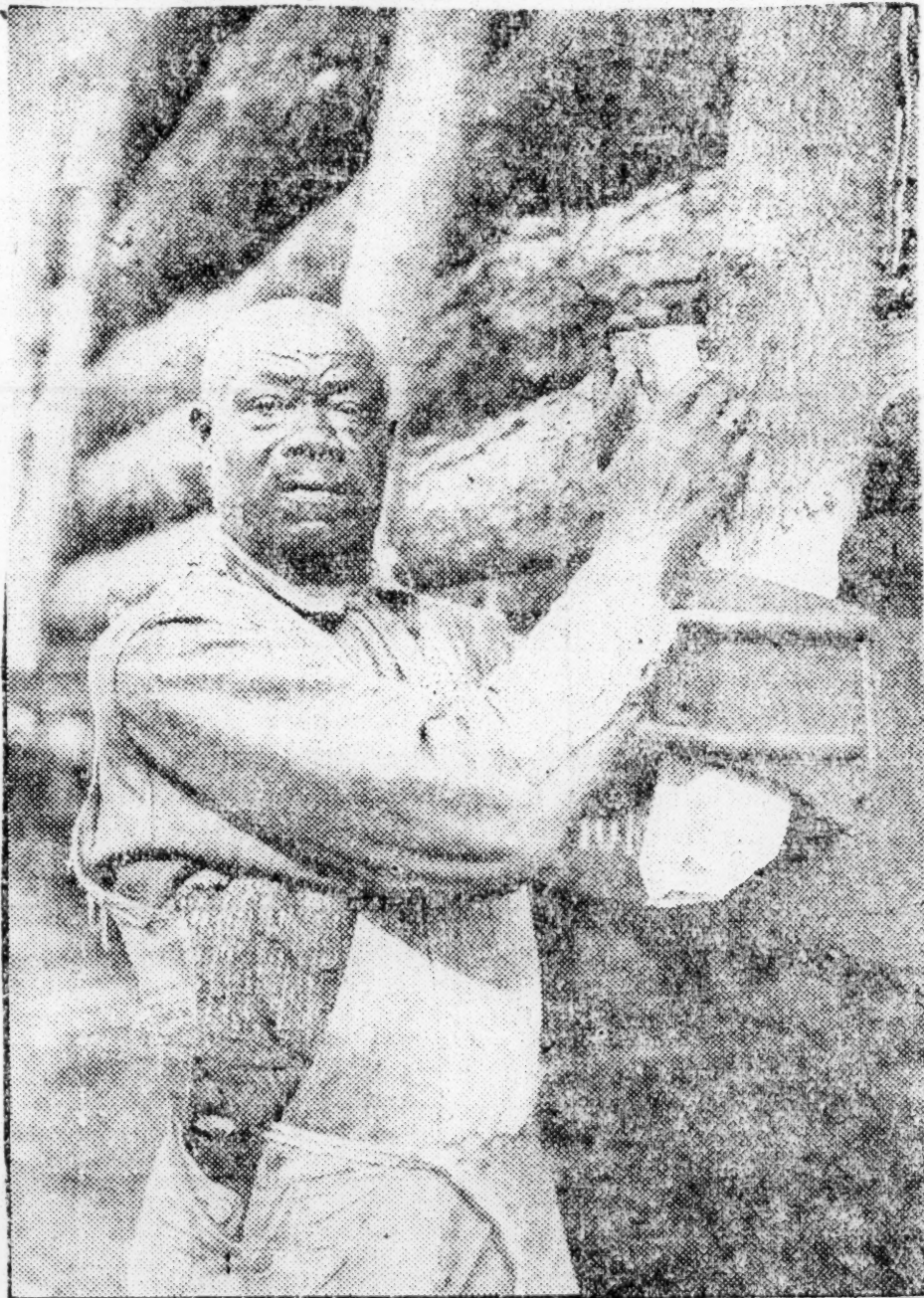
Williams lives at 322 Rogers avenue, Port Norfolk, and has, in addition to a number of grown children, five smaller ones, the youngest about 6 years of age. His wife died a few years ago.

"I feel all right, and am satisfied, so I guess I will stay here sometime yet. I have those five children to take care of and that takes all the money I can get."

"Oh, yes, the company treats me fine. Here I am satisfied and here I expect to stay until I give out entirely. Sometimes I feel like the end isn't far, but I manage to hold on and do my work."

And he held his head high, walked straight and there on his breast was his pin.

The Atlantic Coast Line has awarded five of the 14 emblems to colored employees. Williams, however, has the longest record of all.



Austin Williams, colored employee of the A. C. L., with 57-year service record.

# YOUNG COLORED MAN MAKES GOOD ON JOB IN MACY'S BIG STORE

Alvin E. White, formerly a student at Union University, Richmond, Va., and who served as first sergeant with the Army Transportation Corps during the recent world war, was recently placed with the R. H. Macy & Co. store through the industrial department of the New York Urban League, A. J. Allison, secretary. Macy's is one of the biggest of the big New York department stores.

He was employed last April as an elevator operator, but already has been promoted and transferred to the shipping section of the delivery department. The store's house organ, "Sparks," a monthly magazine, commented on Mr. White's promotion and paid him the following tribute:

"A short time ago one of our most courteous elevator operators by name of Mr. Alvin E. White was transferred to the shipping section of the delivery department. He has already made good and his amiable disposition has won for him many friends."

Last April Mr. White came to Macy's as an elevator operator where he was destined to remain but for a short time. Keep up the good work!"



West Virginia.

Labor — 1924.

Occupation, Wages, etc.,

## WHAT OTHERS SAY

### MAGAZINE NOTES

IN the *Nation* for July 23 is an editorial entitled "Are Negroes Workers?" discussing the admission of Negroes to the unions of the American Federation of Labor.

### NEGROES IN COAL INDUSTRY

THE director of the Bureau of Negro Welfare and Statistics for the State of West Virginia has issued the following statement:—

There are approximately 23,000 Negro men at present employed in the production of coal in this State and the fact that there has been a steady increase over a long period of years in the number so employed is evidence that their work is highly satisfactory. Not only has the Negro made for himself a permanent place as miner and laborer about the mines, but he is being sought by mine owners to fill positions requiring skill and training. Many operators are now employing Negroes as bosses and in other positions of responsibility.

The boss carpenter upon one of the large operations in Raleigh County is a Hampton graduate in carpentry and holds a certificate of graduation in architecture from Pratt Institute, New York. He has with Negro carpenters during the past year constructed more than \$100,000 worth of buildings ranging from three-room houses to a great machine shop. The machine shop was constructed over and around an old building which was removed and replaced by the new building and the machinery was idle only two work days.

The thousands of Negro miners and laborers, hundreds of skilled workmen, and scores filling positions of responsibility in the coal industry are daily demonstrating their fitness for any position in the coal industry from trapper to manager, and the operators are realizing more and more that the Negro is a valuable asset in the production of coal.



Labor-1924.

Peonage.

Alabama.

**PEONAGE IN ALABAMA;  
WORKERS ARE TRICKED**

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., April 19.—Federal officers have uncovered a system of peonage that extends throughout several sections of this state. It is declared that both white and black workers are held in slavery, and in indictments are expected against prominent planters. The most flagrant cases have been found in Walker county, near here, and in Marengo county, in southwest Alabama.

*Freeman*  
One of the common methods to enslave white and colored farmers is to work them on the crop-sharing basis. These "croppers" are held on the farms from year to year, and are continually in debt. No matter how large the crop, the landlord's system of bookkeeping shows the tenant farmer is never on the right side of the ledger. 4-26-24

The "cropper" may labor with the hope that his cotton will yield him sufficient to buy needs for his home, but he is told that he is yet in debt.

Charges of bootlegging against Negroes keep them in bondage. The Negro is arrested and fined. A planter pays the fine and the court arranges that Negro work out this cost. With co-operation by the authorities, the Negro must work on the plantation until he is told his fine has been paid.



Labor - 1924

Peonage.

West Virginia.  
8

# DECLARES PEONAGE STORIES OF WEST VIRGINIA FALSE. STATE GOVERNMENT LIBERAL IS CLAIM

By T. Edward Hill, Director State  
Bureau of Negro Welfare and  
Statistics

Charleston, W. Va., May 3—The  
Crusader Service, edited by Cyril V.  
Briggs, New York, in its release of  
April 21 carried a news item under  
an "Olcott, W. V." date line in  
which it was charged that many  
Colored families are held at this  
place in virtual peonage, that re-  
cently more than 100 families were  
brought in from Southern planta-  
tions to work in the mines in the  
in the places vacated by union min-  
ers who were on strike, that more  
than 35 families escaped and that  
a few days ago two workers who  
were aided by others in making their  
escape down the creek were arrest-  
ed by mounted State Police and re-  
turned past the barracks to the  
mines." 5-3-24

This release was called to my at-  
tention and while I was satisfied  
that it was untrue, yet through the  
Bureau of Negro Welfare and Sta-  
tistics I made a personal investi-  
gation of every charge contained in  
the item and find that Mr. Briggs  
has either been grossly imposed upon  
by some of his Communist or radi-  
cal labor associates or his imagi-  
nation is working overtime. For  
lynchings are rare occurrences and  
there is not only not a shred of  
evidence to back up the charge but  
nothing has occurred in the vicin-  
ity which could be used as a basis  
for the charge.

Olcott is about 30 miles from this  
city and there are two coal mines  
nearby. Both of these mines togeth-  
er do not employ 100 Colored fam-  
ilies and because of the dullness of  
the coal market they are not now  
employing half that number. There  
is not now nor has there been a  
strike there and no labor trouble  
has occurred in that section since  
the "Armed March" of 1921 and then  
only because some of the marching  
miners passed that way on their  
road to Logan County.

Inquiries were made of 20 Colored  
miners regarding conditions at Ol-  
cott and in the vicinity and all of  
them stated that no Negro families  
from the South or anywhere else  
had been brought there, that more  
men are available than there is work

to employ them, that there is not  
now nor has there been a strike  
upon the two operations at Olcott or  
in the vicinity. The few Colored  
miners there are contented and do-  
ing well.

Captain Gaujot, in charge of the  
State Police in that territory, em-  
phatically denied that any Colored  
men had been arrested for any cause  
and returned to Olcott, or that any  
such conditions as described in the  
release now exist or ever have ex-  
isted in that section. The State Po-  
lice there are not mounted and are  
as splendid a set of officers of the  
law as can be found anywhere in  
this country.

That a Negro Agency should be  
the means of spreading propaganda  
through the medium of the Negro  
press of the country which may  
tend to prevent thousands of the  
Race from coming to the one bord-  
er state which gives to the Race  
equal industrial opportunities, edu-  
cational advantages equal to those  
accorded white people, the privilege  
of voting and holding offices, both  
elective and appointive, is a crime  
against the Race. West Virginia is  
the item and find that Mr. Briggs  
has either been grossly imposed upon  
by some of his Communist or radi-  
cal labor associates or his imagi-  
nation is working overtime. For  
lynchings are rare occurrences and  
there is not only not a shred of  
evidence to back up the charge but  
nothing has occurred in the vicin-  
ity which could be used as a basis  
for the charge.

"The Birth of a Nation" do not come  
to the State because in 1919 the leg-  
islature passed an Act (without a  
dissenting vote) prohibiting the  
showing of such plays or pictures  
and providing severe penalties for  
the violation.

There are approximately 100,000  
Negroes in West Virginia and more  
than 60 per cent of whom came here  
from the South during the past  
twenty years. They came because of  
the opportunities offered them to  
work at the coal mines and receive  
for their labor the same wages that  
are paid to members of other races  
doing the same kind of work 75 per  
cent of the Negroes of West Virginia  
work and live upon coal operations  
where they are educating their chil-

dren in schools as good as you will  
find in Washington, D. C., their  
teachers get the same salary paid  
to white teachers of the same class  
and the school terms are of the  
same length.

Peonage has not existed at any  
time in the coal fields of West Vir-  
ginia and it does not exist here now.  
There would be no occasion for peon-  
age in any coal camp at this time  
because for more than two years  
there have been several thousand  
miners constantly out of work.

Convict labor is not employed in  
the mines of this State, nor are pris-  
oners sold to industries or contrac-  
tors for the payment of fines.

In the largest coal producing  
County in the State, there are five  
Negro Justices of the Peace elected  
by the people and in each district  
in which they are elected white peo-  
ple outnumber Negroes more than  
two to one. There are many Negro  
Deputy Sheriffs and Constable in  
the coal fields of the State and the  
surest prevention of lynching and  
peonage is Negro officers armed  
with the authority of the law and  
one or two six-guns.

There is no State in the Union  
where more friendly relations ex-  
ist between the races than here in  
the mountains of West Virginia,  
where members of different races  
work side by side receiving the  
same wage, live side by side, serve  
as election officers in and against  
the same candidates, ride in the

same cars side by side on trol-  
leys, busses and taxis, serve on the  
same juries in several counties, aid  
each other in civic welfare and re-  
ligious activities and mutually co-  
operate for the advancement of all  
the people and the development of  
the greatest, fairest and best State  
in the United States.

No state offers better opportuni-  
ties for the advancement of the Race  
than West Virginia with exception-  
al educational advantages, all kinds  
of work open to Negroes on terms  
of equality of wage and living con-  
ditions, with less than half the pro-  
fessional men and women needed,  
ready employment for thousands of  
skilled artisans at mines, mills, fac-  
tories and in the building trades,

with Negroes just beginning to take  
advantage of their opportunities to  
own and operate farms and conduct  
business of all kinds. The mining of  
coal is the highest paid unskilled  
occupation in the world in which  
thousands of Negroes are engaged  
and from which they earn in West  
Virginia approximately twenty mil-  
lion dollars per year. They are ready  
to put some of that vast sum of  
money in Negro business enterprises,  
they will deposit it in Negro banks  
and spend it in Negro stores. They  
now support several Negro doctors,  
dentists, pharmacists, and lawyers  
and they will support many more if  
fairly dealt with.

The Negroes of West Virginia will  
welcome their strong, vigorous,  
clean brothers and sisters from the  
South to share the advantages offer-  
ed the industrious, thrifty and law-  
abiding. We want more of them to  
own farms, homes and to engage in  
business here and we want nothing  
that will discourage those from  
coming to better their condition by  
honest effort, but this is not the  
State for the shiftless, idle, vicious  
and lawless; for those who wish to  
live by their wits we warn them not  
to come to West Virginia.



Labor-1924

Florida.

## Peonage.

### NINE ACCUSED OF PEONAGE.

PENSACOLA, Fla., Nov. 12.—Nine men have been indicted by a federal grand jury here on charges of peonage in connection with the work of negroes in turpentine camps. The true bills, made public late yesterday, name well-known men including four county officials. Those indicted are: Alfred Land, Charles Land and M. B. Davis, turpentine operators of Calhoun and Liberty Counties; Sheriff C. D. Clark and County Judge W. T. Chafin, of Calhoun; two deputy sheriffs T. E. Cason and Thomas Shuler, G. W. White and Will Proctor.

The six indictments charge arresting, holding and returning negroes to work in turpentine camps against their will. It was charged by the government at a preliminary hearing at Marianna prior to the grand jury investigation that processes of the state court were used to hold negroes in involuntary servitude. The cases are expected to be called for trial at the present term of United States Court here.

## PEONAGE IS LAID TO FLORIDA OFFICIALS

County Judge, Sheriff and Deputies Charged With Aiding in Holding Laborers.

By International News Service.

PENSACOLA, Fla., Nov. 12.—An echo of the famous Martin Taber peonage case resounded along the Florida West Coast yesterday as the result of a sweeping true bill returned by the federal grand jury of Liberty county, G. W. White, and charging several Calhoun county officials with aiding turpentine growers in this section to establish a virtual state of peonage among their employees.

The indictment resulted from an investigation of the case being made against Alfred and Charles Land and M. B. Davis, turpentine operators, who have extensive naval stores interests in West Florida. Federal officials charged the county sheriff, judge, and at least two deputies, assisted the operators in forcing employees to do work distasteful to them.

This development came out in the preliminary hearings held at Marianna, Fla., and the commissioner at that point has been subpoenaed as a witness in the cases. When laborers would leave the camps, federal officials charged, state warrants would be sworn out and they would be compelled to return to work against their will.

The last indictment was returned Wednesday night and named County Judge Chafin, Sheriff Clark and Deputy Sheriffs Thomas Shuler and T. E. Cason as defendants.

Both Sheriff C. D. Clark and Judge W. T. Chafin are from Calhoun County.

States Commissioner W. H. Milton, Federal officers said today that evidence of the most startling nature of one of the defendants, and will be given when the cases come preceding the grand jury hearing to trial at the next term of court.

Similar to the Martin Taber case, they said, accounts of brutal floggings will be given. The federal authorities contend that this was done to the knowledge of the indicted officers, who apparently made no attempt to stop it.

## NINE WILL FACE PEONAGE CHARGE

Will be Arraigned in Florida for Forcing Negroes to Work Involuntarily

PENSACOLA, FLA., Nov. 14.—Arraignment of nine persons of Calhoun and Liberty counties on charges of arresting and forcing negro turpentine operatives to work involuntarily in violation of the federal law against peonage will be made in United States court here tomorrow.

Attorneys for the defendants, including three prominent turpentine operators and the sheriff and judge of Calhoun county have not indicated what reply they will make to the government charges.

Those under indictment are Alfred Land and Charles Land and M. B. Davis, turpentine operators; Sheriff C. D. Clark, Judge W. T. Chafin and Deputy Sheriff T. E. Cason, of Calhoun county; Thomas Shuler, deputy sheriff of Liberty county, G. W. White, and Will Proctor.

All have informally denied the charges.

## Eight Florida Men Are Held For Peonage

PENSACOLA, Fla., Nov. 13.—Sheriff C. D. Clark, County Judge M. T. Chafin and Deputy Sheriffs T. E. Cason and Thomas Shuler, all of Calhoun County, along with Charles and Alfred Land, M. B. Davis and Will Proctor, officials of the Turpentine Works at Blountstown, Fla., will be arraigned in United States Court here today charged with peonage.

It is charged they used their offices to return runaways laborers to the plant and that they were whipped by a burly Negro, kept for that purpose, and that when he did not whip hard enough, he was lashed himself.

The government will attempt to prove that "costs of the court" were imposed, amounting to approximately \$35 each, and that an additional charge of \$100 was imposed by the employers, and that the runaways were compelled to work this out.

The arrest of the men, owing to their high position, has created an amazing sensation which threatens to develop into a scandal as great as the Taber case of recent history.

## PLEA OF ABATEMENT CHECKS PEONAGE CASE

Pensacola, Fla., November 15.—

Charging that the grand jury was illegally drawn and that one of the grand jurors had served as a petitioner within a year, the defense attorneys for Alfred and Charles Land and M. B. Davis, Calhoun county turpentine operators, today filed a plea of abatement in federal court here to the charges of peonage involving working of negro operatives against their will.

Unprepared to argue against the plea, District Attorney Fred Cubberly requested time in which to contest the defense claims. Judge William B. Sheppard set argument for Friday, November 21.

It now appears unlikely that the case will be tried at the present term of court even should the indictment be held legal.

Sheriff C. D. Clark, Judge W. T. Chafin and Deputy Sheriff T. E. Cason, of Calhoun county, were among those named in the indictment, which was returned following an exhaustive investigation by department of justice agents revealing what the government will contend was unmerciful treatment of negro turpentine workers.

## SHERIFFS AND JUDGES HELD FOR PEONAGE

Pensacola, Fla., Nov. 21.—Chas. Charles and Alfred Land, two of nine persons indicted here by a Federal grand jury late Tuesday on charges of peonage involving the working of Negroes on turpentine farms in Calhoun county, gave bonds of \$2,500 each Wednesday afternoon for appearance before Judge W. B. Sheppard. They are naval stores operators.

Sheriff C. D. Clark, W. T. Chafin, county judges, and T. E. Cason, a deputy sheriff, all of Calhoun county, and among those indicted, were others arranging to give bond in their home county. M. B. Davis, the third turpentine operator indicted, Thomas Shuler, deputy sheriff of Liberty county, G. W. White and Will Proctor.

Negro turpentine workers are alleged to have been arrested and forced to work involuntarily, and according to District Attorney Fred Cubberly, the case, when carried to trial will produce testimony from some of the alleged victims of unmerciful floggings because they attempted to run away.

Evidence presented before United States Commissioner W. H. Milton, at Marianna at the preliminary hearing of one of the defendants, and preceding the grand jury hearing to trial at the next term of court, and investigation, indicated the abuse of the state courts in arresting and holding the Negroes. Assistant District Attorney Earl Hoffman said last Friday night. More than a dozen Negroes are being held as witnesses, following their appearance before the grand jury.



Labor—1924.

Peonage.

## PEONAGE HINTED IN DRIVER'S CASE

Laundry Firm Attempts to  
Keep Man from Taking  
New Job.

Alexandria, La., June 18.—The decision in the injunction case brought by the Alexandria Steam Laundry against the Rex Laundry Company and E. E. Fitzum to restrain Fitzum from working for the latter laundry on the ground that he had signed a five-year contract with the Alexandria laundry, will be given Friday in district court. Judge John A. Williams who heard the arguments of the attorney, announced yesterday. Fitzum asks to have the temporary injunction dissolved and asks for \$100 attorneys' fees. Fitzum is a laundry wagon driver. One of Fitzum's lawyers declared he had engaged in cases in which more money was involved, but none more important. He said if the injunction is made permanent it would create a system of peonage and servitude.

### HELD FOR PEONAGE.

Clalborne Parish Men Charged With  
Feliciously Holding Man for Debt.

SHREVEPORT, La., Dec. 4.—Frank Brinker and Earl Killore, prominent Clalborne Parish citizens, yesterday made bonds of \$100 following a preliminary arraignment before United States Commissioner Cecil Morgan on a charge of peonage. They are alleged to have unlawfully arrested and feloniously held Boss Henderson and forced him to make him work out a debt alleged to have been due by Henderson to the men. The bonds were made returnable at Texarkana.

Louisiana.



Labor — 1924  
Peonage.

NEW YORK CITY WORLD  
JANUARY 2, 1924

# PEONAGE ABOLITION IS A NEW YEAR GIFT

Florida Outrages, Exposed by

The World. Ended Dec. 31,

Clubwomen Hear.

DESCRIBED TO FEDERATION.

Mrs. M. M. Jennings Reports at

Washington Meeting.

From The World's Bureau

Special Despatch to The World

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8.—Mrs. May Mann Jennings of Jacksonville, Fla., First Vice President of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, described at the federation meeting here to-day the results of the exposure of the convict leasing system in Florida, which was made by The World in the case of Martin Tabert.

Mrs. Jennings said:

"The Florida Legislature of 1923 enacted more prison reform law than has ever been enacted by any other State in any one session. The convict lease system was abolished, and as I am writing this, on New Year's Day, it marks a new era in Florida in the humane treatment of its delinquent and criminal classes, as the one last lease expired yesterday.

"The same law abolished the lash—whipping—and another law designated and limited punishment which could be administered to prisoners, requiring more stringent inspection of camp and convicts, placing convict guards under bonds, providing also for systematic county jail inspection throughout the entire State. Our State Prison Farm has long been considered a model for such institutions in the United States.

"Because the case of Martin Tabert of North Dakota was of such wide concern and brought things to a climax in Florida I must beg your indulgence further. It is heartbreaking that vital reforms have to come at the cost of such sacrifice, but this seems to be the history of such accomplishments.

"The Putnam Lumber Company,

incorporated under the laws of a sister State, was the company to whose camps the Tabert boy was sent for stealing a ride on a train. The Sheriff of Leon County, who was said to have received a bonus of \$20 for every prisoner turned in to the company, was removed by the Governor, and the Senate removed the County Judge. The whipping boss who administered the lash was indicted on a charge of murder, tried and convicted of second degree murder.

"The whipping boss, the Judge and the superintendent of the lumber company are under Federal indictment charged with conspiracy in connection with sending an aged Negro to the camp. The lumber company has had to pay the Tabert boy's family \$20,000, on account of his death.

"My own pet measure, the abolition of public hanging as a means of capital punishment, and the substitution of the electric chair, also went into effect New Year's Day."

MACON GAZETTE TELEGRAPH

OCTOBER 17, 1924

## NEGRO ON STAND IN PEONAGE CASE

Charlie Jackson Tells of Being  
Held in Jail Illegally

F. J. DYAL IS DEFENDANT

More than a score of witnesses testified yesterday in Federal Court in the case of Forrest L. Dyal, Jr., on trial on a charge of peonage. The Government had many more witnesses to testify, it was announced, when court adjourned shortly after 6 o'clock last night until 9:30 o'clock this morning.

Charlie Jackson, the negro whom Government investigators charge was held in a state of peonage on the Dyal farm, took the stand yesterday morning and told how he had been carried back from the plantation of U. G. B. Hogan, thrown in jail and prevented from going to the Hogan plantation, when Mr. Hogan wanted to pay his debt to the Dyals, new warrants being issued against him.

During yesterday's hearing it developed that the senior Dyal, father of the man on trial, has died since the indictment was returned last May.

During the afternoon the Government brought out the name of J. E. Dyal, a brother of Forrest Dyal, as connected with the case, obtaining the issuance of a warrant against Johnson. The defense lawyers objected strenuously to the admission of this evidence, but Bascom S. Deaver, as-

General.



Labor - 1924

Unions, Strikes, etc.,

See Also: Discrimination.



Labor—1924.

Unions, Strikes, etc.,

Connecticut.

NEW YORK CITY VARIETY  
AUGUST 13, 1924

# NEGRO BAND GETS A. F. OF M. CHARTER

First Colored Musical Or-  
ganization Affiliated  
with That Body

New Haven, Conn., Aug. 5.

Local 486 of the American Fed-  
eration of Musicians has been  
formed here and the membe-

composed of Negro musicians of  
New Haven and vicinity. It is the  
first Negro band to receive a char-  
ter from the national organization  
and the first unit of its kind in Con-  
necticut.

James N. Fletcher has been elect-  
ed president.

The band membership is made up  
of 20 members of the Negro Elks  
band and 18 other musicians.



Labor - 1924.

Unions, Strives, etc.

# NAT'L ASS'N OF WAGE EARNERS INCORPORATED

Many Women of National  
Reputation Connected  
with Organization

The National Association of Wage Earners, who, as announced in last week's Tribune, purchased a home at 1115 Rhode Island Avenue, Northwest, was incorporated under the laws of the District of Columbia. The articles of incorporation were drawn by Attorney Chas. S. Hill of 611 E Street, Northwest.

The organization is the only one of its kind in America; its incorporators have high hopes of making it one of the strongest labor organizations in existence. Already it boasts of a large membership in and around the District and has accomplished much good in bettering local working conditions among women.

The object of the Wage Earners organization will be according to their articles of incorporation, to develop and encourage efficient workers; to assist women in finding the work for which they seem best qualified; to elevate the migrant class of workers and incorporate them permanently in service of some kind; to standardize living conditions; to secure a wage that will enable women to live decently; to assemble the grievances of employers and employees into a set of common demands, and strive mutually to adjust them; to enlighten women as to the value of organization; to make and supply appropriate uniforms for working women; and to influence just legislation affecting women wage earners; to grant certificates of memberships to kindred branches affiliated with this association.

The headquarters of the organization will be Washington; branches will be established throughout the

country. The association will have eleven directors for the first year who will be: Nannie H. Burroughs, Sadie T. Henson, Janie C. Bradford, Mary McLeod Bethune, Maggie L. Walker, Lizzie Fouse, Margaret M. Arter, Minnie L. Bradley, Mary M. Kimball, Elizabeth C. Carter and Lula Eaglin.

Miss Nannie H. Burroughs, head of the National Training School for Girls and head of the Sunlight Laundry of this city is president of the association. Miss Burroughs is one of the best known women of the race today and ranks high in the business world. Associated with Miss Burroughs are also women of national reputation, among whom are Miss Mary McLeod Bethune, head of the Daytona (Fla.) Industrial Schools for Girls; and Mrs. Maggie L. Walker, secretary-treasurer of the Independent Order of St. Luke and head of the St. Luke Bank, Richmond, Va.

## WOMEN PURCHASE HEADQUARTERS ON R. I. AVE.

Will Soon Start Drive for  
Ten Thousand New  
Members

Miss Nannie H. Burroughs, president of the National Association of Wage Earners, announced this week the purchase of the property on the northeast corner of 12th Street and Rhode Island Avenue, northwest. The property is in a splendid neighborhood on a beautiful thoroughfare, near two car lines. The whole deal was not over by the women of the organization.

The house is a large three-story brick with ample quarters for the work the organization plans to carry on. The house will be equipped and

D.C.



MISS NANNIE H. BURROUGHS

furnished throughout. The purchase price was not made public.

The National Wage Earners will very shortly start a drive for 10,000 members. The organization is composed of women who work in the various vocations here. Already much good has been accomplished by this organization in the matter of working hours, wages, and etc. It also plans to operate a factory where uniforms and other necessities will be made.

Miss Burroughs, who is one of the guiding spirits of the organization, stated to a Tribune reporter, that "the organization will show the world what Negro women can do in a labor movement." She stated that this is a real labor organization with a big constructive program. All membership money will go on the purchase of the home, which will be used as the headquarters of the organization.

The Woman Citizen, a magazine edited by white women, in commenting on the movement said:

"Up to this time, as far as we know, there has been no conscious, direct effort on the part of colored women to help solve this problem. This sort of an organization deserves three cheers."

## Wage Earners Hold Dedication

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF  
WAGE-EARNERS TO HOLD  
DEDICATORY EXERCISES.

Miss Nannie H. Burroughs, National President, Has Made Good Her Promise of Nov. 11, 1924, To Aid the Wage Earners.

(Crispus Attuck Press Association.)

If ever Longfellow gave food for thought it was in his passage. "Be there a man with soul so dead who never to himself hath said, 'This is my own, my native land,' for our own Nannie Burroughs has made it possible for the Wage Earners of this country to say to themselves that 1115 Rhode Island Avenue Northwest is their own, their native home, purchased by the brawn and toil of colored women working earnestly, all for one and one for all. 11-8-24

The Wage Earners Association was formed November 11, Armistice Day, 1921, amid humble surroundings in the Y. M. C. A. and promised as their slogan, "A home in Washington for the Wage Earners Class of women that they could really call home."

This association is national in scope, headed by Miss Burroughs, while Mrs. Sadie T. Henson is president of the District Union.

These premises on Rhode Island Avenue will be thrown open for public inspection in the form of a dedicatory event, November 11, preceded by "Block Day," November 10, on which day all friends, members and supporters of such a movement are asked to canvass their block for members, which joining fee is one dollar per year.

Many prominent speakers are scheduled at the open house on the 11th, beginning at 11 a. m. and as has been said by Miss Burroughs, on this day "Will the Negro women be emancipated and realize a great day in the reckoning of their toils unceasingly to help their race to a finer place which it now occupies in the sun."

Serving with Miss Burroughs are Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, Miss Minnie L. Bradley, Mrs. Maggie L. Walker, Miss Elizabeth C. Carter, Mrs. Lizzie Fouse, all of whom are national well known race leaders of the feminine sex, who are capable of carrying out the gigantic program mapped out in 1921. The conference session will be held at Shiloh Baptist Church, Rev. J. M. Waldron, pastor, corner Ninth and P Streets Northwest, November 11 and 12.

Another part of the program of this great women's organization is to build a factory to manufacture house dresses for the retail trade. There is little doubt of the sincerity in carrying out this program when one can gaze upon the magnificent structure

at Lincoln Heights, D. C., this building is a Model Laundry with fast automobiles to carry and deliver same with large letters thereon, known as the Sunshine Laundry. This is what has been done under the capable leadership of our own Nannie Burroughs as she is familiarly known by her host of friends and admirers.



# Nat'l Ass'n of Wage Earners Hold Their First Annual Meeting

## Working Women Dedicate National Headquarters With Well-known Speakers Present.

Miss Nannie Burroughs, President.

(Special to the Journal and Guide.)  
Washington, D. C., Nov. 20.—The dedication of National Headquarters of the National Association of Wage Earners, held in the city of Washington during the past week. The organization, officered by Miss Nannie H. Burroughs, D. C., President; Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, Florida, Vice President; Miss Annie L. Bradley, Connecticut, Executive Secretary; Mrs. Maggie L. Walker, Virginia, Treasurer; Mrs. Lizzie B. Foust, Kentucky, Registrar; and Miss Elizabeth Carter, Massachusetts, Chairman Investment Board, has purchased and furnished beautiful headquarters at 1115 Rhode Island Avenue, Northwest. It was the dedication of this building that stimulated unusual interest in the annual meeting.

### Dr. Brooks Delivered Dedictory Sermon

Dr. Walter H. Brooks delivered the dedicatory address, in which he said, "This effort to give due attention to the improvement of condition to the women who are wage earners, is to be heartily commended, and the leaders do well to dedicate this temple to human industry and the elevation of women who are too noble in spirit to eat the bread of idleness—to women who glory in their competence to sustain themselves and also contribute, in some measure, to the advance of church and state, by the efforts of their industry." Doctor Brooks' dedicatory address was as masterly as it was spiritual in its appeal to dignify every class of service by putting into it character, training and spirit.

Mrs. Archibald Hopkins, brought greetings from the white people of the city. The building was thrown open for inspection, and during the entire day, and far into the night men and women of both races poured into the place to see the dream that had come true.

### Committee Served Guests

A committee of women, headed by Mrs. White, demonstrated with

### Annual Address of President

In the annual address of the President, Miss Nannie H. Burroughs, plans for the carrying out of the whole program of the organization were outlined, which, in brief, are as follows: (1) open work rooms, (2) educate wage earners through demonstrations, lectures and a pocket educational series, (3) train dormitory managers, (4) start a chain of dormitories for the accommodation of women who do not want to live at their places of employment, (5) solicit articles for the National Exchange Bazaar, (6) open a nation-wide drive for five thousand more members, (7) appoint team leaders and organizers, (8) set up local unions.

The National Headquarters are open and those interested in welfare of working women are asked to join the movement by the payment of one dollar for annual membership.

The social room and offices are on the second floor, which are spacious and show good taste in the selection of furnishings. The practice rooms are on the third floor. They consist of three dining rooms and a kitchen. On the fourth floor of the Wage Earners Headquarters are beautiful emergency dormitories, and a practice bedroom which will be used to teach the chambermaid's course.

### Mrs. Bethune Addresses Conference

Following the dedication, the Association held conferences in the Shiloh Baptist Church. Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, Vice President of the organization, presided at the first day's conference and delivered a thrilling address on "I AM MY SISTER'S KEEPER." At the close of an impassioned appeal for practical co-operation, women sprang to their feet and pledged their support to the whole movement. The enthusiasm ran so high that, at the suggestion to form THE BEST CAN CLUB, a number of women pledged sums ranging from ten to three hundred dollars. This money will be used to pay for power machines so that the work rooms for manufacturing the model house dress can be opened at once.

Among the local women who took part in the conference were Mrs. Julia West Hamilton, recently elected President of the Washington Federation of Clubs; Mrs. M. E. Thompson, Miss Anna Thompson, Mrs. Lula Eaglin, Mrs. Janice C. Bradford, Mrs. J. C. Taylor, Mrs. M. M. W. McArter, Miss M. M. Kimball.



Labor - 1924.

Unions, Strikes, etc.,

General.

### SAMUEL GOMPERS AND BLACK LABOR

The death of Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, removes only an incidental friend of colored labor. The lamented German-Hebrew leader strove throughout the last generation to improve the lot of the white men of America who toiled with their hands. He practiced the policy of the driver of bad horses, so far as colored men who toiled were in his scheme of operations. The tighter he drew the reins upon them the better he could manage them. He built a mighty fabric of working men into an almost exclusive white organization. *New York News.* 12-20-24

He drove that machine with a despotism that was as close as it was selfish to the end. Wherever colored men in the Northern States, or in the Southern States for that matter, could not be ignored, they were included within that organization. Gradually he forced the American Federation of Labor to adopt a no-color line policy, but this was true more often in the breach than in the observance. Until labor shortage made the employment of qualified colored mechanics and laborers necessary, until the advance of colored men in industrial education and experience made them available for direct competition as scab laborers and strike-breakers, Samuel Gompers nor his organization raised no finger either to admit them into the union or make equal the working conditions of black labor. *New York, N.Y.*

When black labor conflicted with the interests of white labor Gompers was brutally frank in his championship of the selfish and shortsighted interest of white labor. His defense of the bloody East St. Louis massacre of colored laborers brought down upon him and his organization the thunderous denunciation of Theodore Roosevelt at Carnegie Hall. "Murder is murder," declared the strenuous statesman, "whether black labor kills white labor or white labor kills black labor." Gompers did not forbid the white trainmen of the South from their persecution of colored trainmen. Gompers, however, in Pennsylvania and West Virginia among the miners, and the Chicago stockyards, and the Louisiana stevedores, preached industrial equality. The lot of American labor, black as well as white, has advanced strides as against the day when Gompers became its leader. For this the colored workers of America too stand in respectful gratitude at the bier of their lamented captain.



Labor—1924.

Unions, Strikes, etc.,

### SMASH THE COLOR LINE IN THE TRADE UNIONS

The action of the Negro members of the Workers Party in organizing a committee of colored workers to bring Negro dress makers into the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union and to block the effort of the Negro employment agencies that are busily engaged in recruiting strikebreakers from the South is a step that is to be commended.

The fine spirit of solidarity, the willingness to sacrifice and to stand shoulder to shoulder with their white fellow-workers, shown by the colored dress makers in the present strike gives the lie to the theory that the colored workers cannot be organized.

It also brands as a menace to organized labor the policy followed by many unions in the American Federation of Labor, of refusing Negroes admittance into the unions.

Had the International Ladies' Garment Workers Union a color line such as prevails in other A. F. of L. Unions, the dress manufacturers would have little difficulty in securing a plentiful supply of cheap scab labor from the South to fill the places of the striking employes.

The prejudices existing in other unions against the organization of the colored workers threatens the very life of unionism. Negroes by the thousand are now being shipped from the South, turned into skilled mechanics and then used to open the closed shops established thru years of strenuous fighting by many unions and compel those working at the trade to accept a cut in wages or seek employment elsewhere.

This is being done in Youngstown, O., and in many other places. There are scores of thousands of Negroes here in Chicago, employed in the heavy industries. The Workers Party, always quick to take the initiative in starting movements that will strengthen the fighting power of the workingclass, has set a splendid example in having its Negro members organize committees for the purpose of blocking a prolific source of scab labor during strikes and cheap labor between strikes.

Chicago labor should take action and get a powerful movement under way to bring the colored workers into the unions and wage relentless war on the old policy of closing the unions to the Negroes thus opening the factories to cheap labor.

Smash the color line in the trade unions.  
—The Daily Worker

## UNIONISM AMONG NEGROES

PERISCOPE—A. N. P.

Be It Resolved, That it be the policy of the National Negro Press Association, in its effort to husband strength in and further the industrial destinies of our people, that we, as vendors of news, will discourage and discredit all forms of unionism and economic radicalism.—From a resolution adopted at Nashville, Tennessee, February 21, 1921.

"Fortunately, for the Negro, the National Negro Press Association is not representative of the entire press of the race," remarks the New York Nation. For to oppose unionism among Negroes is to advocate a form of economic race suicide. The American Negro belongs by compulsion to the working class and the color of his skin is as him preference from his employer only if it means that he will work for a lower wage. The open-shop employers in the North who encourage Negro labor do so because for the present it is unorganized and therefore cheap. The Negro can fortify his industrial position only by alliance with his white fellow-workers. That has not always been easy; but the bars are falling. The American Federation of Labor has officially indorsed the policy of organizing colored workers on an equal basis with white, and some unions, like the Moulders', are justly proud of their record of no race discrimination. The Negroes, too, are learning the old American lesson that in union is strength. The extraordinary "Negro Sanhedrin" recently held at Chicago was one symptom of the growing race consciousness; the resolution advocating unionization which almost passed that conference, made up largely of conservative Negro organizations, was another sign of progress.

NEW YORK CITY TIMES  
MAY 4, 1924

## 19,000,000 WORKERS CALLED TO ACTION

The Union International Plans  
World-Wide Anti-War Demon-  
stration in September.

### DEMANDS UNIVERSAL PEACE

Amsterdam Manifesto Says Only  
Organized Labor Can Prevent  
Further Conflicts.

The some 19,000,000 workers in twenty-two countries organized in unions affiliated with the International Federation of Trade Unions are called upon to join in mass anti-war demonstrations on Sunday, Sept. 21, in a manifesto sent out from the Amsterdam Bureau of the Federation a few days ago. The demonstrations are to be in the nature of a solemn observance of the tenth anniversary of the breaking out of the World War, although timed considerably later than the actual date of the beginning of the conflict.

As the American Federation of Labor is not affiliated with the Amsterdam International, considering it too "Red," the anti-war demonstrations in this country are expected to be confined to Socialist Party organizations and local union groups. In Russia, where the

unions are not affiliated with Amsterdam because they regard it as too "Yellow," it is possible that the Bolsheviks will organize demonstrations on a different date. The manifesto, which is signed by Leon Jouhaux of France, Th. Leipart of Germany and C. Mertens of Belgium, as Vice Presidents, and Yan Oudegeest of Holland, Johan Sassenbach of Germany and John W. Brown of England, as Secretaries, as well as by the heads of the central union bodies of the various countries in the Federation, begins by reciting the horrors of the World War, avers that millions of men died for a "sham peace," declares that the nations of the world are preparing for a still more terrible slaughter and continues:

"There is but one way of escape from this terrible fate, and only one. There is one power which can end war, and only one. That power is organized labor.

"When men stood aghast in the midst of the ruins wrought by the last war, it was the working class which was the first to raise the flag of the International. It was the internationally organized working class which first raised the cry, 'Down with war!' It is the workers who, organized in their trade unions and in their political groups, will put an end to all war. If they so desire—and they will so desire—then the onward march of the great peace army will put an end forever to the evil deeds of those who, with incredible cold-bloodedness, are now calmly recommencing the ominous activities which, unchecked, will plunge the world into the unimagined horrors of the next war.

"On the third Sunday in September of this year the International Federation of Trade Unions is organizing an Anti-War Day in all the affiliated countries. It is supported by the Socialist and Labor International, the International Cooperative Alliance and the International of Socialist Youth. Let this be the first day of the mobilization of the international peace army! Let this great demonstration, in which you will be shoulder to shoulder with your comrades of other lands, be your challenge to the powers that make for war! Make yourselves one of those who, in this first World Anti-War Day, are defying the powers of hate and greed and are teaching the new might of world brotherhood and solidarity. Let the forces of life and progress unite to do the will of peace and labor.

"Come, then, comrades, in your thousands, to demonstrate on our International Anti-War Day."

"War against war! Long live universal peace!"

### Race Problems at Red Congress.

Prominent among the sixteen main subjects for discussion and action on the agenda of the Fifth Congress of the Third (Communist) International scheduled to open in Moscow on June 5 are "The negro question" and "The revolutionary movement in the East and in the colonies." It is stated that the French and American Communists are to name the principal speakers on the negro problem, while Sen Katayama, the veteran Japanese social rebel, and Manabendra Nath Roy, one of the Indian defendants, in absentia, in the treason trial at Cawnpore, will tell the delegates about the situation in China, Japan and India. Despite recent assertions in the Communist press to the effect that the International Workers' Relief, the organization which has done considerable famine relief work in Russia and Germany, is a non-political body, the thirteenth point on the agenda of the congress, reading "International Red Relief," seems to indicate that Moscow is keeping a watchful eye upon its activities. The Third Congress of the Red Trade Union International is to begin in Moscow on June 25, with "Tasks of the Supporters of the Red Trade Union International in England" as one of the subjects on its agenda.

### Moscow Supports Bombacci.

When Deputy Bombacci, then one of the most trusted leaders of the Italian Communist Party, made a speech in the Chamber of Deputies last December enthusiastically lauding Premier Mussolini for the Fascista chief's willingness to grant formal recognition to the Soviet Government of Russia, his comrades were so scandalized that they practically kicked him out of the party. Signor Bombacci, who, it is alleged, had merely acted in accordance with instructions given him by M. Yordansky, then Russian representative in Rome, straightway appealed to Moscow for justification. In a report by the commission of investigation appointed by the Presidium of the Executive Committee of the Third International, recently made public in European papers, Bombacci is chided for having been too open in his praise of Mussolini and the action of the Italian Communist Party is approved, in principle. Nevertheless, the Commission declares that, because of his devotion to Communism and his service to the working class Bombacci "remains as before, an honest, staunch Communist in the ranks of the Communist Party of Italy and the Communist International." Consequently, if the Italian Communists wish to avoid trouble with Moscow they will have to welcome Bombacci back into their ranks when he returns from the Russian capital.

### Angelica Balabanova Thrown Out.

The Vienna Arbeiter-Zeitung quotes the Moscow Pravda of April 8 as reporting the expulsion from the Communist Party of Russia of Angelica Balabanova, the well known Russo-Italian labor agitator, because of "her active support of the counter-revolutionary Italian Social Democracy." Mme. Balabanova, who played a leading part in the international Socialist movement for years before the World War, worked with the Communists up to the beginning of 1922, when she left Russia and settled in Vienna, where she resumed her work as member of the staff of L'Avanti!, the Milan organ of the Maximalist Socialists, the group midway between the Italian Communists and the Unitarian Socialist Party.

### Boris Souvarine in Trouble.

Boris Souvarine, the Russo-French Communist publicist whose revelations dug out of the archives of the Czarist Government and printed in the Paris Humanité resulted in the libel suit brought against that Communist paper by Le Matin, is reported to have been removed from his position as editor of the Bulletin Communiste by the Political Bureau of the Communist Party and ordered to Moscow as French delegate on the Executive Committee of the Third International. It is averred that Souvarine got into the bad graces of the French Communist chiefs through supporting Trotsky and Radek in their "democratic" campaign.

General.



Labor - 1923.  
Unions, Strikes, etc.,  
**LABOR UNIONS AND NEGRO MIGRANTS.**

It has always been contended by those who have given thought and study to labor unions and their troubles, that not a few of their failures in many instances to be able to maintain their closed shops effectively has been due to the fact that Negro laborers of the same sort as are their members find in their strikes an opportunity for gainful employment and they seize these opportunities. It has also been contended successfully that were labor unions able to forget their racial antagonisms long enough to think seriously of this phase of their difficulties their policies would be so changed as to allow for the inclusion in their ranks of Negro laborers.

It seems that the steady influx of Negro labor from the South and its opportunity, the immigration law being in operation, to find a permanent place in Northern industry, is causing some such thought to filter through the consciousness of Eastern labor leaders to the extent that they are discussing the question earnestly.

Only last week the Eastern District Conference of the Trade Union Educational League went on record as being against all discriminatory practices and debarring clauses against Negro workers by passing the following resolution:

"WHEREAS, genuine working class solidarity is a burning necessity, if the working class is to better its condition and achieve its final emancipation from the exploiting class, and

"WHEREAS: The employers have brought about a steady and growing migration of Negroes from the South into Northern industrial centers, where unorganized and influenced by the appeal to racial hatred, they become the tools of the employers in their ruthless attack upon the trade union movement, and

"WHEREAS: Discriminatory practices and debarring clauses in certain important unions, aimed at Negro workers, serves to aid the Bosses in their efforts at keeping alive the spirit of race hatred, therefore be it

"RESOLVED: That the Eastern District Conference of the Trade Union Educational League calls upon the Militants to demand the complete abolition of all discriminatory practices and debarring clauses aimed against Negro workers, and, be it further.

"RESOLVED: That as a part of our general campaign to 'organize the unorganized' we pay particular attention to the unorganized Negro workers."

Certainly it is not to be doubted that some such steps will be necessary if the unions are to be able to successfully maintain themselves in Northern and Eastern industry. Slowly but surely it seems that Negro labor is gaining its opportunity for inclusion in the general American scheme. Inclusion means the solution of its greatest problems. Its fitness has already been proven.

General.

THE SOUTH AND THE NEGRO.

The Chronicle has received from Hon. Richard H. Edmonds, Editor of the Baltimore Manufacturers Record, a clear-cut discussion of the subject of migration from the South to the North. We regard this discussion, by this gentleman, as of the highest importance, and submit the letter with confidence that it will command the deepest interest and consideration.

Letter From Hon. R. H. Edmonds, Editor Chronicle:

Sir:—In a recent issue of the Chronicle there was an article by Mr. N. L. Willet entitled "The Negro, South and North," in which he says, There is a Baltimore journal that reads a lecture to the South as to the Negro wages and conditions and invites the Negro to Baltimore, citing the fact of Baltimore Negro schools, Negro churches and Negro real estate owners. As a matter of fact, there are more well-to-do Negroes and comparatively wealthy homes per capita owned by them than can be found in any northern city in the country."

Now, my friend, Mr. Willet, instead of saying a "Baltimore journal" might just as well have said the Manufacturers Record and instead of saying that we were trying to invite the Negro to Baltimore, he might have stated the exact facts. We were not inviting the Negro to Baltimore. We were trying to show that the South must meet the conditions which exist in Baltimore and elsewhere for the comfortable housing of Negroes, if it is going to keep the Negroes in the South. Baltimore has over 100,000 Negroes but there isn't a Negro house in this whole city that hasn't a bathroom, for there is a law in Baltimore in operation for twenty or twenty-five years or more which forbids the building of any dwelling in the city, however humble it may be, without a bathroom and sanitary facilities. In mentioning this fact and citing as one indication of how Baltimore is seeking to educate the Negro here, that it is building a Negro high school at a cost of \$1,250,000 I was simply trying to indicate some of

the ways which the South mustday over the union rate of wages, carry on its campaign to retain the which at that time, as I remember better class of its Negroes. the figure, was \$2 a day. The union had a rule that no man should be allowed to earn over that amount. Mr. Leland found that many of those who are leaving are the secretary and president of the labor union were in his employ. He had them come up to his office and he pointed out to them the absurdity of limiting their amount of income. He said, "You cannot possibly take care of your family with reasonable comfort and save any money on \$2 a day; I will gladly pay you whatever you earn if you will take off your maximum limit."

There are a great many Negroes in the South whose leaving would be for the good of the South, but among the class whose leaving is a direct loss to the South. I have never been much disturbed by the movement of Negro population from the South to the North and West. It has some temporary hardships but in the long run it will be better for the South and for other sections. It will shift the Negro problem which has heretofore been purely a Southern problem and make it a national problem. It will show to the people of New England for instance, who have often berated the South for Negro illiteracy, the problem which the South has faced and heroically carried. The West will learn much on the same subject, and therefore instead of this being purely a sectional problem as we have had in the past, it will become national.

To some extent the Negro will be disillusioned as he seeks to make a living in the North and West. He will find in many cases that he hasn't the same degree of sympathy of the better class of people that he had in the South. He will probably find the struggle in the end, in times of depression, a little harder on him than he had to endure in the South, but many Negroes will succeed in the North and West, just as they are now doing. The thought of better homes such as those for instance which exists in Baltimore for them will be helpful and will stimulate larger desires on the part of the whole Negro race.

I was talking yesterday with one of the really great young-old men or old-young men of the country, Henry M. Leland, of Detroit, eighty-one years young, full of vitality and vigor and enthusiasm and love of work. He told me of an experience which he had once, when many years ago he established a foundry in Detroit. After it had been running a few weeks, one of his best men was fined \$50 by his labor union and made about 50 cents one

the figure, was \$2 a day. The union had a rule that no man should be allowed to earn over that amount. Mr. Leland found that many of those who are leaving are the secretary and president of the labor union were in his employ. He had them come up to his office and he pointed out to them the absurdity of limiting their amount of income. He said, "You cannot possibly take care of your family with reasonable comfort and save any money on \$2 a day; I will gladly pay you whatever you earn if you will take off your maximum limit." His offer impressed them and at the next meeting of the union they agreed to raise the limit so that a man could earn \$2.50 a day and they came back thinking that they had won a victory. Again Mr. Leland pointed out the folly of limiting themselves to small wages and after two or three trips back and forth, these men succeeded in having their labor organization cut out entirely the limit of pay and earned whatever they could. Mr. Leland said to them, "If you earn \$5 a day more, it will give me great pleasure to pay it; you will be better off; you probably won't save much because when you get \$5 a day instead of \$2, you will want to live better, you will buy a carpet or a dress for your wife or something else, but you will be living with more comforts and attractions in your home and the spending of the \$5 a day will make more general prosperity than will be the spending of the \$2 a day to which you have been limiting yourselves."

That argument of Mr. Leland's applies with equal force to the day laborer, whether he be white or black. If he gets a little higher pay or makes a little more money, he surrounds himself and his family with a few more comforts, provides a little better for his family, develops himself with his family to a little higher standard and in doing so helps to add to the prosperity of the entire community.

The South would be benefited by developing, on the part of the Negroes, a larger desire for



more home comforts and conveniences, for once the desire is created and the opportunity is opened, people will work harder in order to achieve these things and that means more work, more production, more money spent, more happiness and more prosperity.

No man dare say that the rate of wages in the South on the farms for white and black men alike has not been too low. This has been a powerful weight pressing down wages and salaries of every class of people throughout the South. The white man's burden in the South has been the burden of low wages, and low salaries, due to carrying the burden of low pay for Negroes. Every intelligent man knows that much of the prosperity of the Pacific Coast is due to the high rate of wages paid and the high salaries of clerks, teachers and preachers, and so it will be in the South. When we lift the rate of pay in the South, we will lift comforts and standards of living, we will lift burdens from many hard pressed teachers and preachers and salaried men and women; we will increase the circulation of money and all to the prosperity of everybody.

Some say it cannot be done by reason of the low prices which have prevailed for cotton. Then let us put our cotton crop to the quick until cotton brings a price which will enable us to pay good wages. Let us create on the part of the Negro and the poorer class of white people a desire for better homes with modern, sanitary conditions and we will increase the healthiness of all classes and the prosperity of everybody.

If out of the Negro movement and the discussion that this has brought about, there shall come a broadening vision of the South in favor of higher wages and higher salaries, the loss of the comparatively few Negroes who are going North and West will prove a very great blessing to the whole South.

But, do not let your good writer, Mr. Willet, say that I am trying to read a lecture to the South as to Negro wages and conditions. Having been writing on Southern questions for something over forty years, I feel that I can at least be permitted to continue to express

my opinions on any and every phase of every question that bears on the progress and prosperity of the South.

Very truly yours,  
Richard H. Edmonds,  
Editor.

Baltimore Md., May 22.

From the Augusta Chronicle of Sunday, May 27, 1923.

### Babson Counts on Craft Unionism to Cripple Organization of the Steel Workers

*The Slave State*  
In a recent bulletin to employers, Babson writes as follows:  
*Unionist*  
"Unionizing Steel \* \* \* We do not

expect much of the campaign on account of the large number of competing unions, which have never made out to hang together long enough to get anywhere, and on account of the large numbers of Negroes which have been imported into the steel industry.

The trade unions make all kinds of professions about organizing Negroes. They have never actually done much of it." The employers are counting on craft divisions and racial friction to defeat the campaign to organize the steel workers. What more striking proof would the workers ask than this? Craft unionism defeated the great steel strike of 1919. Craft unionism divides the workers and permits the employers to use one group against another. Craft unionism breeds jealousies and divisions within the ranks of organized labor. Craft unionism is a crime against the workers. And the capitalists are to-day counting on craft unionism to defeat the campaign to organize the steel workers. It is not sufficient for unions to endorse amalgamation of craft unions into industrial unions. The rank and file of the craft unions must demand results, must call for action, amalgamation of craft unions into industrial unions. The rank and file of the craft unions must demand results, must call for action, amalgamation must be made a fact. An industrial union of all steel workers—

red, white, black, yellow, skilled and unskilled, native and foreign-born—could bring even the steel octopus to terms. Divisions of craft, color, or creed are weapons in the hands of the employers, Babson's statement proves beyond a doubt. That they realize the

value of these divisions and will foster them to the utmost.

The solidarity of labor demands the amalgamation of craft unions into powerful industrial unions of all the workers in the industry.

## "SLAVE STATE" PREDICTED

### Chesterton Sees It As Out-growth of Industrial Trend.

LONDON, Aug. 30.—World conditions are ripe for the creation of a "slave state," Gilbert K. Chesterton, author and master of Paradox, told the Roman Catholic Congress at Birmingham.

The "slave state" will be a state of society growing out of the present industrial trend. Chesterton explained as follows:

"There are at this moment all the materials for the building up of a slave state. We have today all the wealth and employing power in comparatively few hands, and a vast mass of people dependent upon these rich men. 9-1-23

"That vast mass of men are very turbulent, often desperate, often starving, and constantly throwing civilization out of gear by strikes and revolts.

"Somebody will suggest a compromise in which one class will guarantee decent hours, decent conditions, decent holidays, in return for which there will be insistence that men do not strike.

"The moment you have that you have slavery. You undertake to feed your slaves, and your slaves undertake to obey. It might be a good bargain for them."

## The South and the I. W. W.

An unexpected result of the negro migration from the South is brought out in an advertisement in a New Orleans newspaper, sponsored by a group of Louisiana business men, giving warning that the I. W. W. are invading the South to take the places of the negro, and are planning to exercise an influence in industry in this section, as they have done in the West and North.

"In the exodus of the negro laborer from the South," says the statement, "let us remember we can stand anything but the substitute offered by the Wobblies. The lack of snap and jazz in 'Old Black Joe' and his repeated promises of 'I'm Coming' is much better than the raw red notes of the internationale."

New Orleans and other gulf ports have had a taste of I. W. W. activity in the dock strikes inspired by them. The losses and dangers incident to those disturbances no doubt prompted the issuance of this warning to the people to be on the lookout for an increase in labor disturbances in the South.

The coming of the I. W. W. into this section is not something to be viewed with indifference. A distinguishing characteristic of the South up to this time has been its comparative freedom from strikes and disputes between capital and labor. In bidding for new industries, this condition has been pointed to as one of our greatest advantages. It has been the proud boast of the South that it was the most American part of the nation, and industry has been coming this way to escape the annoyances and losses it has suffered in other sections where the I. W. W. and kindred radical organizations are constantly stirring up trouble.

Every loyal Southerner is proud of that distinction and desires to see the South's advantage in this respect preserved. It will not be preserved, however, unless the people of this section show themselves alive to the menace of the I. W. W. invasion and present a solid front of public sentiment against the policies followed by that organization elsewhere.

Texas has some laws relating to the tying up of commerce that will come in good play, in case of wilful efforts at creating labor disturbances and interfering with the people's business. If these laws are not strong enough, they should be revised to meet any situation, that may develop in this State. The I. W. W. should be given to understand in advance that malicious strikes, attended by sabotage and violence will not be tolerated.

A determined stand against the activities of this band of invaders right in the beginning will save the confidence of the nation in the South and prevent an interruption in the drift of industry in this direction.



Labor—1924.

Unions, Strikes, etc.

NEGROES BRING SUIT

TO STAY IN UNION

(By The Associated Negro Press)

New Orleans, La., April 30.—  
Seventy longshoremen, led by James  
Davis, have obtained an injunction re-  
straining the Longshoremen's Union  
from ousting them. The men make  
the claim that the officers of the  
union sought to suspend them after  
an effort to call a strike in 1923 had  
failed. The failure of the strike  
move, the men hold through their  
attorneys, entitles them to the right  
of returning to work.

Louisiana.

*Kansas City  
Sun  
5-3-24*



Labor-1924.

Maryland.

Unions, Strikes, etc.,

## GARMENT WORKERS GO OUT ON STRIKE

Colored Union Employees  
Walk Out and Leave Ma-  
chines When Strike  
Is Called

## BETTER CONDITIONS ASKED

Both Races Stand by Unions  
for 44-Hour Week and  
Higher Wage

Practically all the colored garment workers allied with the Ladies Garment Worker's Union, quit work Wednesday when 700 members of that organization were called out on strike, according to officials of the union.

A 44 hour week, increased wages, unemployment insurance and unionization are some of the 13 demands made by the union.

### WANTS CLEAN-UP

According to Sol Polakoff, chairman of the strike committee, the strike will last until Baltimore, which is now the black spot in the clothing industry, is cleaned up and the same working conditions are brought about here that obtain in New York, Cleveland and Philadelphia.

### Advises Co-Operation

Advising that colored garment workers in Baltimore ally themselves with the Union as a means of bettering their condition, Mrs. Dr. John R. Coasey, 753 George street, told a reporter for this paper some of her experience in the industry Tuesday.

Mrs. Coarsey, who is the daughter of Dr. W. W. Beckett, one time President of Allen University in Columbia, S. C., and who several years ago had some experience in the industry in New York City, told this paper that she saw the wages of colored girls raised from \$12 to \$40 per week merely by aligning themselves with the union.

### Exploit Colored Girls

How colored girls are exploited and held back deliberately was analyzed by Mrs. Coasey, who stated that here in Baltimore only white girls are given complete work while colored girls are given piece work by such manufacturers as the Maryland Cloak Company, Dupkins on Baltimore street and Fri-bush and Estresterson on Lombard streets.

In this way they never learn to make complete garments and are at a disadvantage when their demands are being considered.

Prejudice is also kept fermented between the colored girls and the union workers and this accounts for the fact that whenever there is a strike the girls in the non-union shops consider the union their enemies.

"If the colored workers could realize," said Mrs. Coasey, "that their wages and working conditions would be greatly bettered by alignment with the union, they would all join as they have in New York where they are now employed from top to bottom of the trade and with wages the same as those received by whites."



Labor — 1924.

Minnesota.

Unions, Strikes, etc.,  
SHOEMAKER'S UNION HONORS  
DECEASED MEMBER.

ST. PAUL, Minn., Feb. 23.—The Boot and Shoe Makers' Union, of which the late Charles E. James was chief organizer, telegraphed Mrs. Celia James, his widow, that in appreciation of the service of her husband the national committee voted her the equivalent to a year's salary of her late husband. Mr. Charles James was one of the organizers of the Boot and Shoe Makers' Union and in spite of being colored, rose to be a power in that organization.



Labor - 1924.

Unions, Strikes, etc.,

Missouri.

## WELFARE WORKER HONORED

St. Louis, Mo., Feb. 29.—T. A. Crenshaw, of the P. B. A., and welfare worker at the Pullman shops, was entertained at the Y. M. C. A. Monday night by the shop employees. After the luncheon he was presented with a 17-jewel gold watch.

## IN THE KANSAS CITY INDUSTRIAL WORLD

Mr. L. W. Fairchild of Poplar Bluff, Mo., is in Kansas City this week on fraternal matters. He was on the committee with Edward Hookis and A. B. Tanner of Chicago that went to Washington to offer a protest against the bill known as S-2646, or the Howell Bill.

Mr. Fairchild is president of the Protective Order of Railway Trainmen, and his committee represented eleven thousand brakemen, switchmen and train porters. The Howell Bill, against which the protest was offered, denies the Protective Order the right to nominate representatives to the Adjustment Board. It would create and would compel foremen and supervisors to affiliate with the employers' organization.

## FIRST CONVENTION OF NEGRO MECHANICS

The National Mechanics' Exchange, an organization of Negro mechanics, which has recently been formed, will hold its first convention in St. Louis from August 30 through September 1. According to a statement by John R. Steele, local president, the Exchange, although not a union, will afford a medium through which colored mechanics may be inspired to do bigger and better things.

The Mechanics' convention is scheduled to begin Saturday morning at 9 o'clock, at St. James church. The day will be taken up with an organization program, which will be followed by a luncheon at 8:30 p. m. at the Pine Street Y. M. C. A. On Sunday afternoon at 4 o'clock an open forum will be held at the Pine Street Y. M. C. A., during which time talks relative to the trades will be made by various speakers. The closing session of the meeting will be held Monday morning at 9 o'clock at St. James church. The public is invited to these sessions.

## HEADS NEGRO NATIONAL MECHANICS' EXCHANGE



PROF. JOHN A. LANKFORD

The building of a national organization of Colored Mechanics is the aim of the National Mechanics' Exchange, which has just completed its first convention in this city. The National Exchange originated from a small local Exchange, of which Mr. John R. Steele, Supt. of Construction, Quartermaster's Dept. U. S. Army, is president.

The convention began Saturday, August 30, and ran through September 1. Every session of the meeting was alive with significant and interesting discussion and procedure. Many noted tradesmen were present. The major part of the sessions were taken up with plans for organization and procedure.

Mr. Steele, National Secretary of the Exchange, outlined the keynote of the organization as follows:

1. The registration of every colored financier throughout the country, his rating and wealth, for it is upon him and his advice that the success of the work is assured.

2. The registration of every colored architect, designer and engineer, so that we may know them and feel their interest as we hope to have them know us and feel our interest.

To summarize what is expected of the organization as is given by Mr. Steele: "The success of our project means that we will have a working force of competent men at hand who are able to negotiate for finance, design, and to erect any project for our people or any people, anywhere."

Prof. John A. Lankford, M. M. S., LL. D., the noted pioneer architect and mechanical engineer, was elected president of the Exchange. Prof. Lankford is a native of Missouri. His present home is in Washington, D. C., where his business headquarters are

located. It is predicted that the Exchange will have a big success under his direction. The other officials are: Frank McCree, Vice-Pres.; John R. Steele, Cor. Sec'y. (Mr. Steele is also editor of the official journal of the Exchange). Mr. Samuel C. Duke, Rec. Sec'y. and Asst. Editor; Mr. Oliver Starks, Treas.; Prof. B. F. Bowles, Nat'l. organizer, and Rev. W. H. Peck, Chaplain.



Labor - 1924.

Unions, Strikes, etc.,

New York.

# FORM UNION OF ELEVATOR MEN IN N. Y.

with traffic officers to make "Safety First" the organization's motto.

The organization is composed of men who are employed by many of the best known families in New York. A meeting of all the automobile drivers in the city is to be held at an early date. Officers of the present body are Elmer Walton, president; John Anderson, vice president; George White, secretary; A. H. Stretton, treasurer. Trustees: C. W. Norman, James Ellison, Cecil Blanchard. Board of Directors: Frank Curtis, chairman; O. C. Newton, Al. Johns.

## DINING CAR UNION ADJUSTING OVERTIME DISPUTE WITH A.C.L.

New York, March 21.—Elevator operators of both races in apartment houses and office buildings are being organized in the same union and it was announced that James Weldon Johnson, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, would address an organization meeting to be held Sunday night, March 22, in the Y. M. C. A. building, 135th St. between Seventh and Lenox Aves. Other speakers at the meeting will be A. Philip Randolph, editor of the Messenger; Alderman George W. Harris; Thomas J. McGill, president of the union, and Frank R. Crosswaith, organizer for the union.

The union is affiliated with the American Federation of Labor and has been recognized by the real estate owners of New York city. A wage scale has been adopted through the union's efforts to become effective April 1 by which the men are to receive substantial increases. The scale is based upon the height of buildings in which the elevators are operated.

A clause in the oath taken by every member of the union provides against discrimination against any fellow member because of race or color.

Mr. Crosswaith estimated that there are 35,000 elevator operators and starters in the city, of whom 20,000 are Colored.

## Colored Chauffeurs of New York Organize the Professional Drivers

Automobile chauffeurs employed professionally in New York City have formed an organization to be known as the Professional Drivers of America, with headquarters at 205 West 135th street. The body was formed at an open meeting and dinner at its headquarters.

The purpose of the men is announced as being the safety of pedestrians and automobilists through the developing of discretion, care and judgment on part of the men operating machines through the streets. "The appalling number of automobile accidents in New York City, as well as in other smaller communities, was considered, and it is intended by the drivers to exercise their skill together with a proper appreciation of the rights of the travelling public, and cooperation

### Strange Bedfellows.

Rienzi B. Lemus, President of the Grand Council of the Brotherhood of Dining Car Employees, Inc., writes: "The old saw 'politics (and exigencies) make strange bedfellows' ever runs true to fact, and in the opposition to the Howells-Barkley bill now before Congress the Negro is the chief bedfellow and the white

"The rail brotherhoods and their associates, the seventeen standard railroad labor unions, would abolish the Railroad Labor Board. In place of the board they would have the United States courts exercise the function of arbiter of last resort, with adjustment boards, composed of equal numbers of representatives of both parties serving as counsel of the first instance. To get this program into the revised statutes of the United States the unions have had the Howells-Barkley bill introduced. The Barkley end of it kicked up quite a furore in the Lower House several days ago. \* \* \*

"Recently the Labor Board rejected the plea of some colored trainmen for back pay. A member of the labor group dissented from the conclusions of his colleagues on the ground that the decision was due to the color of disputants. Whereupon the Chairman retorted that the greatest offenders in that respect are the standard railroad unions who had the Howells-Barkley bill introduced which would enact their discriminatory policies into law.

"Selving upon the declaration of so important an authority the majority of the opposition, particularly the company union advocates among employees, ground their objection to the measure on its feature which would discriminate against American citizens because of their race or color. But the colored brother is determined that if he must choose his sacrificial altar it will not be that of company union, whose proponents would today be cracking the whip of the industrial slave owner over the backs of the white and black laborer if it had not been for the courage, foresight and ability of the rails brotherhood and the American Federation of Labor.

"I hold no brief for the rail brotherhoods. Each of the four places constitutional inhibitions on colored men working side by side with its members, but they have not attempted to sit astride of colored men in the ditch. As Booker T. Washington said, 'you cannot lift yourself without lifting others,' has been the history of the rail brotherhoods. Every time they have through their pooling of resources lifted themselves they lifted others, including colored railroad men.

"The Labor Board is all right under the conditions which it must function.

The best interests of the country demand, nevertheless, either a Labor Board with power to enforce its decrees and a non-partisan personnel or the Howells-Barkley Bill, which neither discriminates against Negroes nor others nor purports to turn over the railroads to the standard railroad labor unions."

## PULLMAN PORTER NEWS

By JAMES H. HOGANS

At a meeting held on June 6, W. C. Taylor, a Porter-instructor and service inspector of the Pullman Company at the Mott Haven yards, was elected chairman of Local Committee "C" of the Plan of Employee Representation for Porters and Maids. The Committee is composed of ten members, five representatives from the management, and five from the porters and maids. It is the channel through which all grievances, petitions, and suggestions, coming from this class of employee in this district must go before they are presented to the management of the Pullman Company at Chicago for consideration. Matters of this description must first be submitted to the district superintendent, and if no satisfactory adjustment can be made with him, they then pass to Local Committee "C". From this committee they are taken to the Zone General Committee, and after their merits have been passed upon by this body, they finally reach the management.

The importance of the position of Committee "C" is thus readily seen, for all contentions, complaints, and recommendations, must first be received and approved by this committee before they are passed on to higher authorities. Mr. Taylor is to be complimented on his election. The present personnel of the committee is as follows:—

Management Representatives—1st Assistant Superintendent, S. Saring; 2nd Assistant Superintendent, W. A. Brunswick; 3rd Assistant Superintendent, J. H. McDermott; Porter-Instructor, J. H. Mnigo; Porter-Instructor, W. C. Taylor.

Porter's and Maid's Representatives, T. E. Griffin, R. O. Thibou, C. H. Hunter, J. H. Hogans, A. L. Totten.

As we view it, what goes on in these local committees under the Plan of Employee Representation, is very similar to what would take place in an industrial court, and we can best compare the activities of the representatives to the tactics of counsel battling for or against an offender. In making this comparison we do not wish to convey the idea that any representative is intimidated or harassed at any of these meetings because of the stand he takes, and lest we be misunderstood, we would like to say here that

those who represent the management in the New York District, if nowhere else, are as fair and square in the consideration of all cases which come before them as one could reasonably expect in a body of this or any other kind. As a matter of fact, during the short time we have been on the Local New York Committee, we have on many occasions observed some of the management representatives making suggestions as to the best way in which to present a grievance to higher officials for consideration, when as a matter of policy they might just as well have assumed an indifferent attitude and been legally right in doing so. There is no complaint to be made of the personnel of our local committee so far as their manner of considering grievances is concerned. Speaking in all truthfulness, we don't believe there is any great fault that anyone could find with the entire Plan of Employee Representation as operated by the company for bringing about satisfactory industrial adjustments, although there are some cases of dismissal which come to us for consideration which are rather disheartening.

As a general rule, when a discharged porter or maid brings his or her case to us to see what we can do, it is always a hopeless one, for the evidence of unsatisfactory service is so clearly shown by the record card which the Pullman Company keeps of each employee that, irrespective of what sentiments or sympathies one may entertain toward the dismissed, one cannot consistently vote in any other way but to sustain the management action in the matter. The company rarely discharges an employee for a first offense, unless it be a case of theft or insult to passengers, or some act punishable by law. Misdemeanors of this class will not be tolerated or countenanced.

Dismissal cases constitute the larger portion of those which come before our local "grievance committee," and most of them are of the type above mentioned. Of course, it is unreasonable to expect this committee to salvage industrial wrecks. Minor grievances that some may have, they direct keep to themselves or blabber to willing listeners that "the grievance committee is no good." We can't very well criticize them because we personally said the same thing not so long ago. Whether it was revenge or retribution that caused us to be elected we do not know, but we have a sneaky feeling that some of the old-timers who were serving then put the job over on your humble servant. Nor were they satisfied with having him a mere committeeman, but they selected him as secretary, and he has six months more to serve.



Labor - 1924.

Unions, Strikes, etc. I.

# BARE CLEVER RUSE OF PULLMAN COMPANY TO ESCAPE WAGE DEMAND

## CLAIM UNIONS DIDN'T TREAT THEM FAIRLY

The recent report issued by the Pullman Company that all porters and maids would receive an 8 per cent increase in wages, is according to Robert L. Mayes, president of the Railway Men's International Benevolent Industrial Association of Chicago, a clever ruse on the part of Pullman officials to pacify the association and at the same time make it unnecessary to meet the demands that the employees have been putting forward for 240 working hours per month with overtime.

In order to thoroughly arouse all porters and maids who might allow themselves to accept the slight increase offered by the Pullman company, and thus cease their agitation for the regular hours and overtime President Mayes has issued statements to the press in which he asks those whom he represents not to take any action until the organization has held its referendum to decide just what the majority of workers want. The 8 per cent increase, according to Mr. Mayes, averages to the porters about \$5.25 a man while the demands of the men, if put in to effect, would average an increase of about \$12.50 per man a month. This in itself, without taking into consideration the new scale asked by the porters would be a great improvement over the promised 8 per cent.

What the porters have determined to ask for in the line of wage increase is a scale to be not less than one-half the minimum salary paid to all Pullman conductors of a corresponding period of service, making the monthly wage to be \$75 for the first year and a gradual scale up to \$92.50 for 15 years of service and over. The maids will demand a flat monthly increase of \$30 over their present wage.

### Garment Workers Say They Paid Dues, But Didn't Voice In Proceedings

The strike now being conducted by Chicago locals of the International Garment Workers' Union, against several dress shops involves scores of colored girls and women who are employed as dressmakers and a number of men who are employed as cutters.

The shops against which the strike is directed have been conducted on the open shop basis for more than twelve years and the efforts of the strikers are now exerted in the direction of forcing the shops into the union.

This movement is characterized by Frank Mitchell, president of the Chicago Association of Dress Manufacturers, as an attempt by a Jewish syndicate to control the labor situation in a way favorable to their own race and ultimately to move the industry to New York.

Meyer Perlstein, vice president of the Joint Board of Chicago Locals, is said to have made the statement to an official of the Dress Manufacturers' Association that colored workers should organize a local of their own, as they were not wanted to sit in with the whites.

A number of colored workers who were interviewed by a representative of The Whip declared that in the past they had joined the union, but found after paying their dues that they were not treated fairly and given the same consideration as the whites.

## CHICAGO COLORED STRIKERS HOLD ROUSING MEETING.

CHICAGO, Ill., March 26.—"Colored Workers Organize!" was the slogan of a rousing mass meeting last night at Unity Club Hall, 514 Indiana avenue.

The meeting was called by the colored girl strikers involved in the strike of the garment workers of this city. The purpose was to combat the efforts of the bosses and certain colored employment agents to draft scab labor from among the unorganized workers of the race, to whom the issues involved were unfamiliar.

Otto E. Huiswoud, a member of the Supreme Executive Council of the African Blood Brotherhood, the Negro national organization, Anton Johnson of the Chicago Federation of Labor, Lovett Fort-Whiteman, a colored member of the Workers' Party of America, were among the speakers at the meeting which had the sympathetic interest of such men as Rev. W. S. Braddon, pastor of Berean Baptist church; Rev. O. M. Tanner, Bethel Methodist church; Rev. C. Burton, Congregational church; Rev. Clark, Ebenezer Baptist church.

The audience was told of the conditions in the garment industry and the reasons for the strike, including a demand for better wages and less working hours. Prospective scabs were also warned to take the bosses' promises of permanent employment with a grain of salt.

## DEMAND SMASHING OF UNION COLOR LINE.

Workers Daily Paper Praises Chicago Colored Girls Strikers and Demand Elimination of all Union Bars.

(Crusader Service.)

Chicago, March 19.—In a powerful Worker, organ of the Workers Party of America, and the militant front page editorial, the Daily of the trade unions the removal of workers generally, today demanded all existing barriers and color lines, to allow Negro workers membership on a basis of full equality and equal participation in the benefits of unionism. The editorial follows:

"The action of the Negro members of the Workers Party in organizing a committee of colored workers to bring Negro dressmakers into the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, and to block the efforts of the Negro employment agencies that are busily engaged in recruiting strikebreakers from the South, is a step that is to be commended."

"The true spirit of solidarity, the willingness to sacrifice and to stand shoulder to shoulder with their white fellow workers, shown by the colored dressmakers in the present strike, gives the lie to the theory that the colored workers cannot be organized."

"It also brands as a menace to

organized labor the policy followed by many unions in the American Federation of Labor, of refusing Negroes admittance into the unions.

"Had the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union a color line such as prevails in other A. F. L. unions, the dress manufacturers would have little difficulty in securing a plentiful supply of cheap scab labor from the South to fill places of the striking employees."

"The prejudice existing in other unions against the organization of the colored workers threatens the very life of unionism. Negroes by the thousands are now being shipped from the South and skilled mechanics, and then used to open the closed shops established through years of strenuous fighting by many unions, and compel those working the trade to accept a cut in wages or seek employment elsewhere."

"Chicago labor should take action and get a powerful movement under way to bring the colored workers into the unions and wage relentless war on the old policy of closing the unions to the Negroes, thus opening the factories to cheap labor."

"Smash the color line in trade unions!"

## WHITE TRAINMEN WIN FIGHT FOR THEIR JOBS

Chicago, March 27.—The protest of trainmen against the action of the

Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific railway company in discontinuing the service of head-end brakemen on passenger trains and filling such positions with negro porters was sustained late today by the United States railroad labor board. Members Florence Baker and J. H. Elliott, in a dissenting opinion, declared the decision "far reaching its wrongful and harmful effect, not only on this but on other carriers." The ground taken by the majority was that the action of the carrier violated its agreement with the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, which became effective March 1, 1920.

Representatives of the brotherhood contended that this agreement provided that negro brakemen, who had been classed as such by an order of the federal railroad administration, would hold rights on head-end positions as brakemen in freight service. In exchange for this consideration white trainmen were given rights on the head-end positions in passenger service, which were formerly held exclusively by the negro brakemen. Before the federal order was issued, the company was alleged to have employed negro porters who performed the duties of head-end passenger brakemen at a lesser rate than that paid white brakemen. After the order was issued they were paid trainmen's rates.

## Pullman Workers to Discuss Wages

Upon the initiative of the general officers of the Pullman Company a conference of representatives of porters and maids will soon assemble in Chicago to inquire into the wages among the colored employees of the company. The present low scale of wages and working conditions will be discussed.

The 24 delegates to the conference have been elected from various sections of the country. There are 9,981 persons of color in the service; 9,396 ballots were cast.

A. A. Totten of New York received 7,968 votes, the largest number cast for any one delegate. A. A. Miller of Kansas City came next with 7,566, and M. C. Oglesby, of Boston, third with 7,344.

The names of the complete list of delegates follows:

E. W. Whis, of St. Louis, Mo.; A. A. Miller, Kansas City; A. S. Fisher, Denver, Col.; John C. Mills, Chicago Western; A. M. King, Chicago Central; J. S. Morris, Chicago Eastern; T. A. Jones, Jacksonville; A. L. Totten, New York; M. C. Oglesby, Boston Southern; R. Lancaster, Pennsylvania Terminal; J. D. Bannister, Philadelphia; S. J. Wynn, Pittsburgh; T. A. Simms, Los Angeles; A. H. Hohman, San Francisco; Berrie Tinsley, Portland; James Sexton, New Orleans; D. Bass, Fort Worth; C. D. Hardin, Detroit; C. S. Wells, Cleveland; J. E. Stewart, Jersey City-Erie.



# COLORED PICKET FOR DRESSMAKERS GETS TERM IN CITY JAIL

CHICAGO.—Alma Jones, a softspoken little colored picket for the dressmakers in the strike for higher wages and better union shop conditions, will spend 15 days in jail unless her appeal is successful. Denis Sullivan, the notorious injunction judge of the Chicago superior bench, imposed 15 days and \$200 on her for contempt because she had dared to picket the downtown garment factories after Sullivan had enjoined all members of the union from picketing or in any other way influencing or attempting to influence the strikebreakers or their relatives against continuing work in the struck shops.

Sullivan's anger against the Negro unionist was fanned to white heat when she failed to tell him to what officer in the union she made her reports after picketing. Asked by the employer's attorney whether she would continue to picket after her release from jail she said, "Sure." That was too much for the judge's sense of his own importance as the legal source of injunctions. The sentence, the heaviest so far imposed on girl strikers, followed. And the picket line on Market st. continues undiminished in strength.

Sullivan also continued his jail sentences, raising the ante as he went along. Lena Moritz' contempt cost her 20 days and \$200. Freda Reicher, one of the most active strike workers, drew 30 days and \$200, as did Jennie Lieberman. Miss Lieberman was previously beaten up by a company detective for whom a warrant charging assault has been issued. With lesser sentences sandwiched in Sullivan wound up with 45 days and \$200 imposed on Victoria Seslakwitz.

The injunction judge is having more work in his court than ever before as a result of his judicial aid to the employers. It seems to be affecting his behavior, for before sentencing Sophie Young to jail and fine he remarked to the employer lawyers, "I pity the man who gets her for a wife."

# GIRL GETS JAIL IN STRIKE

Fired with zeal and determination to do her duty as she saw it in preventing non-union workers from making it hard for her and 5,000 of her colleagues allied with the garment makers union, who are on strike, Mrs. Alma Jones, 25, 3510 Indiana Ave., a union worker, on picket duty, defied the Superior court injunction issued by Judge Dennis Sullivan restraining striking garment workers from interfering with non-union employees in the shops, and for doing so was placed under arrest Friday afternoon by a deputy sheriff.



Mrs. Alma Jones

Of the 26 garment strikers to be arrested, fined and sentenced to jail for the same offense, Mrs. Jones is the first girl of the race to fall into the toils of the law. Tuesday morning when she appeared before Judge Sullivan for trial, she was found guilty by the court and fined \$200 and sentenced to 15 days in jail.

## Operator on Dresses

According to the evidence brought out in the case, Mrs. Jones, before the strike, was an operator in the dress manufacturing establishment of Lee Bros., 327 Market St. For five days she has been picketing in front of 212 Market St., where a number of our girls have been employed to break the strike.

On the witness stand Mrs. Jones said that she went to the girls and told them they should be ashamed to go in the shops and force us to work for nothing. She didn't call any of them scabs, she said.

"Why did you go to 212 Market St.?" Mrs. Jones was asked by Attorney Leo S. Lebosky, counsel for the manufacturers.

"I went there because girls of my race were there, making it hard for me and for themselves," she replied. Asked what she intended to do after she left the courtroom, Mrs. Jones answered: "I intend to do my duty as a striker and continue picketing."

When asked about her union card, Mrs. Jones said she had turned it in, but she refused to say to whom and

added she didn't know whether she gave the card to a white man or one of color. She said she knew nothing about injunctions and didn't pay any attention to them. She saw printed sheets posted about, but the police would not permit any of the strikers to read them, she added.

Mrs. Jones expressed intention to continue to violate the court's order and her careless way of answering questions which gave the impression that she was not telling the truth, aroused the ire of Judge Sullivan.

"She ought to be held to the grand jury for perjury. It is quite evident that she meant to cover up and evade by saying she didn't remember," asserted Judge Sullivan. "And," he added, "she means to disregard court orders when she says she will continue picketing; so I fine her \$200 and sentence her to 15 days in jail."

# MAN WHO ORGANIZED PULLMAN PORTERS ANSWERS ACCUSERS

## Alleged To Have Squandered Money On "Fast Women" in Chicago's Buffet Flats, Labor Leader Tells of Organized Opposi- tion—Chisum Mentioned.

CHICAGO, Ill., April 10—"My enemies cannot stop the program of achieving an independent labor organization for the purpose of securing reasonable adequate wage, just and reasonable working conditions for 25,000 Pullman porters."

Robert L. Mays, president of the International Railway Men's Association, delivered the above ultimatum late today, following his arrest last Friday on an alleged charge of visiting a bootleggers' establishment. As soon as news of the unjust arrest reached the local office of the association steps were taken to effect Mays' immediate release.

Said Work of Melvin Chisum Mr. Mays vehemently branded the charge as a vicious and malicious frameup, and declared it was the work of an unscrupulous enemy. The "enemy" is said to be an alleged ex-convict of the State of Oklahoma, and also a prominent member and representative of the Associated Negro Press. Although Mays would not name his alleged conspirator, it is believed he referred to one Melvin Chisum of Tennessee, newspaperman and politician. Chisum sent a news telegram to the office of The Pittsburgh Courier late last Saturday stating that Mays was arrested Friday night by Detective Sergeant John T. Scott in a booze raid. He also accused Mays of squandering the Pullman porters' money on "fast" women. The telegram follows:

The Pittsburgh Courier, 518 Fourth avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa. Robert L. Mays nabbed in raid. Robert L. Mays, prominent colored labor agitator and organizer of Pullman car porters, was nabbed tonight by Detective Sergeant John T. Scott (colored detective) and his booze squad in a booze raid on a bootleggers' joint. Mays was found in possession of three quarts of bootleg liquor and put up stiff battle in effort to get away. It came out at the station house that Mays is a constant frequenter of buffet flats where he spends the Pullman porters' funds on fast women and white lighting. Mays will be remembered, squandering much money

a few years ago which resulted in the property which was purchased in this city for a home for Pullman porters, being sold under foreclosure. Proceedings after the porters had invested several thousand dollars in the place which was entirely under the management of Robert L. Mays.

MELVIN J. CHISUM.

All these allegations Mays declares are false.

"There is no record sustaining the alleged assertions," said Mr. Mays to a reporter for The Pittsburgh Courier. "It is my opinion," he continued, "that the party responsible for releasing the matter to the press is in the pay of some sleeping car company. It is all a frameup to discourage us in our fight for fair



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wage increase. But it is of no avail. I am beginning now a vigorous campaign of organization of all classes of colored railway workers for the purpose of firstly, demanding reasonable wages and proper working conditions from railway companies and, secondly, to fight the unfair and un-American provisions of the Howell-Barkley bill now before Congress, and which, if passed, may mean the elimination of Negroes for railway service in the capacity of skilled workmen."

### Suspects Politician

It is said that since early in January a prominent Chicago politician has sought to defame Mays. It is reported that the Pullman porter leader was coerced with bribes, browbeaten with threats and annoyed by "detectives" until his loyal followers bitterly protested.

### Led Successful Campaign

Mays has led a successful campaign in the interest of the 25,000 Pullman porters the country over, and just two weeks ago an additional four per cent increase was granted the men. The granting of an eight per cent increase by the railway company in February was met by such objection, that the four per cent increase followed. The men are asking for what they believe is a fair increase, and through the efforts of the Railway Men's Association they plan to reap the most desirable results.

Mays' arrest has only inspired the men to greater activity it was reported from several sections Tuesday. Telegrams and letters expressing confidence and encouragement poured into Mays' office since Saturday.

## RAILWAY WAITERS WIN BEFORE U.S. LABOR TRIBUNAL

*The Chicago Defender*  
Action of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad Is Repudiated

*Chicago, Ill.*

The long-standing fight between the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad and the Railroad Men's International association moved a step

nearer completion recently when the United States Railroad Labor Board, in its decision recently, repudiated the action of the railroad by sustaining the demand of the railroad men's organization that a secret vote be permitted to determine who shall represent sleeping car porters and dining car waiters in the making of schedules to regulate wage and working conditions. This vote is to be taken at once and as soon as the representatives can be determined negotiations will be started.

Although the officials of the association are confident of a large majority in its favor, nothing is to be left undone to insure this fact. Consequently a committee of 300 sleeping and dining car men has been appointed for the purpose of campaigning among the St. Paul men and instructing them just how to vote.

One of the chief reasons why the railroad is fighting the association so bitterly, some declare, is because of the large sum of money involved. More than \$25,000 is claimed in back pay and overtime.

It is thought by the porters that some of their men are playing into the hands of the officials of the railroad for slight personal favors, and for that reason the dining car men have led most of the fighting. The cooks and stewards, while not included in the order, will reap many of the benefits if the case is won.

Credit for the victory thus far goes to R. L. Mays, president of the association, and Attorney Voilet Anderson, who carried on the legal end of the fight.

ed" completely by a Daily Worker reporter, two columns being given to this account each day. This display of interest, the joining of the Worker in the fight against the showing of "The Birth of A Nation," their denunciatory allusions to employers, measures and organizations not favorable to the Negro worker leads the writer to believe that out of this international spokesman, much good will come. Drowning men grasp at straws! In the words of Kipling, "Good hunting brother?"

## CHICAGO LABOR JOURNAL CHAMPIONS NEGRO

"The Daily Worker" Wages War For Dark Brethren

CHICAGO, Ill., Feb. 23.—(Special to The Freeman)—A new champion has risen in the pitifully small army of militants who seek to rescue the Negro from the vicious pummeling of his enemies, in the person of "The Daily Worker," a radical young journal published in this city.

The voice of all laboring people, the Worker is rising steadily in popularity because of the unwelcome publicity contributed to the stealthy forces that seek to exploit the great masses, including the darker races of the world. One reads contributions from the pen of Lovett-Forte-Whitman and Gordon Owens, Negroes, T. J. O'Flaherty, whose name be-

speaks its nationality, Simon Felshin, whose name likewise bespeaks his, Jay Lovestone, Iury Libendinsky, Leland Olds, Alfred V. Frankenstein, Carl Sandburg, Jeannette D. Pearl, and many others, noted or obscure, who seek the vaster world brotherhood. 2-23-24

We note with interest the space devoted to the account of the Sanhedrin conference which was gover-



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## Banquet and Smoker Is Enjoyed by Hobart Receiving Department

Dayton Men Urge Co-Operation and  
Discipline In Addresses Before  
Colored Employees

The Hobart Receiving Room club, composed of the colored employees of the Hobart Mfg. Co., of whom E. W. Arnold is foreman, held a banquet and smoker in the demonstration rooms at the Hobart plant Friday evening. It will long be remembered by those attending not only from the tempting repast which was served but by the inspiration received from the talks of the speakers which provided a word feast for each individual present. 4-5-24

The principal addresses were by James A. Parsons, chief chemist of the Duiro Mfg Co. of Dayton and a graduate of the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute of Troy, New York, and C. W. Price, district insurance manager, also of Dayton. Mr. Chavis was toastmaster and after the preliminary program introduced the speakers.

Mr. Parsons, who is an electrical engineer and has charge of the Dayton concern's laboratories, gave an interesting review of the work in which he is engaged and exhorted the men of the club to realize that industry is one of the main factors in promoting domestic welfare and that each individual should play his part in helping to make it so.

Mr. Price gave a beautiful and forcible exhortation to the men to stand steadfast, not to be misled by the little thorns of life but to do their best for the company which engaged them, learn to pay due respect to their superior officer and aspire and work not for personal prestige but for the good of all concerned. In speaking of the ability of and the position occupied by Mr. Parsons, Mr. Price declared that he is a true representative of the race, being "all wool and a yard wide," with not the slightest trace of amalgamation. He closed his talk with a tribute to the official personnel of the Hobart Mfg. Co.

E. W. Arnold responded, saying he was trying to the best of his ability to keep his department always up to an A-1 standard, also paying tribute to the company's policies.

E. C. Wolford, purchasing agent of the company, an unofficial representative, also gave a short talk. Others who responded for talks were E. O. Adams, W. O. Calvest, L. Goehns and A. Quissenberry.



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N. A. A. C. P.  
WRITES TO  
A. F. OF L.

PHILADELPHIA, July 5.—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in Fifteenth Annual Conference, has unanimously adopted a letter to the American Federation of Labor asking that labor unions cease discriminating against Negro workers.

The text of the letter is as follows:

For many years the American Negro has been demanding admittance to the ranks of union labor.

For many years your organizations have made public profession of your interest in Negro labor, of your desire to have it unionized, and of your hatred of the black "scab."

Notwithstanding this apparent surface agreement, Negro labor in the main is outside the ranks of organized labor, and the reason is first, that white union labor does not want black labor and secondly, black labor has ceased to beg admittance to union ranks because of its increasing value and efficiency outside the unions.

We thus face a crisis in interracial labor conditions; the continued and determined race prejudices of white labor, together with the limitation of immigration, is giving black labor, tremendous advantage. The Negro is entering the ranks of semi-skilled and skilled labor and he is entering mainly and necessarily as a "scab." He broke the great steel strike. He will soon be in position to break any strike when he can gain economic advantage for himself.

On the other hand, intelligent Negroes know full well that a blow at organized labor is a blow at all labor; that black labor today profits by the blood and sweat of labor leaders in the past who have fought oppression and monopoly by organization. If there is built up in America a great black block of non-union laborers who have a right to hate unions, all laborers, black and white, eventually must suffer.

Is it not time, then, that black and white labor get together? Is it not time for white unions to stop bluffing

and for black laborers to stop cutting off their noses to spite their faces?

We, therefore, propose that there be formed by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the American Federation of Labor, the Railway Brotherhoods and any other bodies agreed upon, an Interracial Labor Commission.

We propose that this Commission undertake:

1. To find out the exact attitude and practice of national labor bodies and local unions toward Negroes and of Negro labor toward unions.
2. To organize systematic propaganda against racial discrimination on the basis of these facts at the great labor meetings, in local assemblies and in local unions.

Pennsylvania.



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### **Pullman Porters Unionize**

**W**E HAVE always felt that at the proper time the American Negro would enter the ranks of organized labor. Although agitators and social worker-zealots to the contrary, we knew that the Negro must first demonstrate his CAPACITY for usefulness before he could expect to be taken in and recognized by other labor groups.

And we also knew that when he demonstrated that capacity, he would not still hang after and beg other groups to take him in, but his self-respect and self-interest would spontaneously arise and he would hit the trail to organized effort alone. Then the other groups would see the advantage of having his power and influence and bid for his support.

Our faith has been most abundantly justified by the Pullman porters. Not only have they proved their capacity for service, but they have become a fixed part of American life, just as steel workers and electricians are fixed parts of industrial life. So the news that the Pullman porters will unionize and demand shorter hours and more pay is welcome. Everybody knows they should get them. The public knows the porter has been faithful and that he is entitled to a generous reward for his labor. The American Federation of Labor will, in time, recognize the latent power in the porters' ranks, and seek to avail itself of it by asking the porters to become an affiliated union.

We urge the porters to perfect their organization and make their demands temperately and wisely, and we feel sure they will not be the losers thereby.

Pennsylvania.



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PERRY PARKER IS HONORED  
BY PULLMAN PORTERS ASS'N

New York City, Jan. 25.—On Thursday evening, Jan. 17, the officers of the two local lodges of the Pullman Porters' benefit association entertained the grand chairman, Perry Parker, with a banquet at Craig's beautiful dining room on 150th St. The guests were laid for 30.

S. J. Freeman, director of the northeast zone of the association, social worker and investigator for the company, was the toastmaster. The guests were seated at 9:30 p. m., while an orchestra under the leadership of Lieut. Porter, director of the Porter's band, played "Old-Fashioned Love."

The toastmaster introduced George H. Sylvester, ex-instructor, who has recently been pensioned. Mr. Sylvester paid a glowing tribute to Mr. Parker and letters of regret were read from F. A. Cook, superintendent of the New York Central district, and W. H. W. Mebane, welfare worker of the Buffalo district. Other speakers were Dr. Desverney, T. M. Blanton, Fred R. Moore, editor of the New York Age, and Eugene Stokely.

Mr. Parker told of the work being accomplished in the Pullman shops in St. Louis, Michigan City, Chicago, Kansas City and Buffalo. Race mechanics are in all of them. Race men in the triple valve departments and electricians. He told of a lad 22 years old at the Buffalo shops handling a machine that makes wheels for Pullman cars, has been running the machine 18 months, and who can get 22 to 27 pairs of wheels a day. He also told of the deposit of \$10,000 in the Bingham State Bank of Chicago for the P. P. B. A. 1-26-24

Col. Rucker introduced the following men who made three-minute talks: J. D. Bannister, Philadelphia; Mr. Griffin, New York Central; Mr. Hogan and Mr. Lancaster of the Pennsylvania terminal, the latter being special railroad representative for the Chicago Defender; Mr. Wilson, New York Central; Mr. Brown, Pennsylvania terminal; Mr. Condy, New York Central; Mr. Thebean and Mr. Taylor, instructor at Mott Haven.

## PULLMAN PORTER NEWS

By JAMES H. HOGANS

In response to various petitions from the porters and maids in its service, the Pullman Company has just sent a notice to all of its employees in the above named classes advising them that the management of the company intends holding a conference with the duly authorized representatives of such employees for the purpose of negotiating an agreement covering the rules and working conditions now in existence. This is considered by the employees affected to be a most encouraging and satisfactory step on the part of the company, and would seem to indicate that it is endeavoring to deal fairly and justly with them. 3-9-24

In its notice the Pullman Company announces that arrangements will be made to hold nominating elections in

each district and agency on or before Tuesday, February 5, 1924, for the purpose of nominating representatives to meet and confer with the management. One candidate will be nominated by each of the 66 districts and agencies in the Pullman circle, and from these nominees 24 will be selected in a final election, three representatives being allotted to each one of the eight zones participating in the conference. The conference will take place at Chicago some time during the month of March and will be attended by the head officials of the company.

The Pullman Company has issued strict instructions to its superintendents and minor executives that they are to take no part whatsoever in the proceedings of the election, as it wishes to have its employees elect representatives of their own choosing. The management is desirous of being absolutely free from the accusation of having interfered with or influenced the elections in any way, and is solely interested in having the 24 representatives chosen by the free and open vote of all the porters and maids in the entire Pullman service. This spirit of fairness cannot but be commended.

There is no doubt that this conference can be of great benefit to the employees in whose interest it is to be held, if they elect the right sort of candidates to represent them. The company is acting in a square and praiseworthy manner, and if the employees are not prepared to take every advantage of the opportunity offered they have only themselves to blame. Large corporations and public service companies like the Pullman Company are coming more and more to realize that the viewpoint of the employee, no matter how humble his capacity, is the most secure basis for the adjustment of industrial relationships. They have at last learned that one contented worker is worth more than a dozen discontented ones. The proposed meeting is a splendid indication of the progress that has been made in this direction during recent years, and we must see to it that it is productive of good results.

In sending these representatives we must bear in mind that they will not be able to obtain everything we want, nor everything we ask for, but they can and must present the true facts concerning the conditions of which we complain in an intelligent manner and with a unanimous voice. We have no the least doubt but that the company will meet us halfway and that the conference will result in a favorable adjustment of present working conditions, and, perhaps, an advance in the existing wage scale.

We shall have more to say on the sub-

## Pullman Porters' Benefit Association.

ject later on, and by reading the New York Age, you will be kept fully informed regarding the elections and the progress of the conference.

# POINTS OUT DANGERS TO PORTERS

Advises Sleeping Car Men  
To Arbitrate With  
Pullman Co.

Delegates attending the Pullman conference in Chicago were tendered a banquet last Saturday evening at the Ideal Tea Room by prominent Chicago citizens. The representatives of the Pullman Porters from twenty districts were present. Happy, smiling porters all the way from Portland, Oregon and Los Angeles, Calif., sat around the banquet table with fellow employees from New York and Boston. Melvin J. Chisum, Field Secretary of the National Negro Press Association, acted as toastmaster and after the feast he welcomed the Porters and assured them that the citizens of Chicago and newspapers that he represented were intensely interested in their welfare. Mr. Chisum said that it was his firm and staunch opinion that arbitration and conciliatory methods with the Pullman Company would be the feasible and effective means whereby the desires of the Porters would be realized.

### Edward Morris Gives Toast

Attorney Edward H. Morris, who is recognized as our foremost lawyer, gave an eloquent toast to the visitors and paid them homage for their courtesies to the traveling public and to the members of their own race whom they are often called upon to serve. "They make us feel that we are big men," said Mr. Morris, "and we are inspired to live up to their expectations." The lawyer was followed by

Mr. Perry Parker, an employee of the Pullman Company, with residence in Chicago. Mr. Parker stated that a class the Porters owned more property than any other of their race, and was pleased to inform his hearers that the Pullman shops had been thrown open to colored artisans and that they were breaking all previous records with their great efficiency. The toastmaster upon the conclusion of Mr. Parker's toast and the vociferous applause accompanying, introduced Bishop A. J. Carey, of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, who is recognized as a leader and counsellor to his people in every phrase of their activities. Bishop Carey, in an impressive manner, related his deep interest in the Porters and expressed to them his desire to have them realize their hope of better pay and more dignity. "But," stated the Bishop, "I am afraid that you will never get what you want by treating with the American Federation of Labor. It is a strange thing that Organized labor is only interested in organizing those among us who are already employed and holding good jobs. Labor unions are not interested in the great army of the unemployed."

### Shoots at Unions

The Porters in unison thundered their applause to the remarks of the Bishop and he was interrupted by the cry of one of the Porters from Boston who yelled out, "We are not thinking about Samuel Compers and the Jim Crow unions. We know of a better way to get our rights." Bishop Carey then continued his toast by telling the gathering how colored people had struck some years ago in Chicago when they were employed as waiters in Kohlsaat's big chain of restaurants. He added: "They were replaced by white girls and never recovered from the blow. I believe that the interests of my people lies with the wealth of the nation and with the better class of white people who control it. Labor and Capital cannot adjust themselves by rival organizations; they must work together."

Others who spoke were: Hon. Oscar DePreist, Editor, Jos. D. Bibb, of the Chicago Whip; Messrs. Oglesby, of Boston; Totten, from New York, and Tinsley, of Portland, Ore.

## THE PULLMAN PORTERS WIN ALL DEMANDS

Get 12 Instead Of 8% Increase. Improvement In Hours And Working Con-

ditions Granted. All Matters Satisfactorily Adjusted.

### Associated Negro Press

CHICAGO, Ill., April 2.—The representatives of the Pullman Porters and maids who have been in session here with the management of the Pullman Company all week have proven they are diplomats in more ways than simply giving service to travelers. Elected by the nearly 10,000 porters and maids of 20 great Pullman divisions to represent the claims and grievances of their fellow employees they began by securing a 12% increase in pay. The company recently granted voluntarily an 8% advance. The porters contended this was insufficient to meet the high cost of existence these days and the company added 4% more. 4-4-24

Considerable improvement in hours and working conditions were granted. Preparatory time, that is time which men put in at the yards preparing cars for the reception of passengers is to be paid for as well as over-time put in on late trains. "On belated trains an adjustment of time will be made and compensation given," read the agreement.

Every matter brought to the attention of the management is said to have been satisfactorily adjusted by the men in conference. The delegates departed Saturday for their homes to report back to the men of their districts smiling and confident that the plan of sitting across the table and thrashing out differences was the right and proper one. The delegates were: James Sexton, New Orleans district, as chairman; E. W. Willis, St. Louis district, as Secretary; A. L. Totten, New York, Grand Central; A. A. Miller, Kansas City; M. C. Oglesby, Boston; A. Lancaster, Penn. Terminal, New York; Berrie Tinsley, Portland, Oregon; P. A. Simms, Los Angeles; A. H. Hohman, San Francisco; A. S. Fisher, Denver, Colo.; A. M. King, Chicago Central; S. T. Wynn, Pittsburgh; T. A. Jones, Jacksonville, Fla.; C. S. Wells, Cleveland, Ohio; D. Bass, Fort Worth, Texas; C. D. Hardin, Detroit, Michigan; A. S. Morris, Chicago East; J. E. Stewart, Jersey City, Erie; J. D. Bannister, Phila.



# PULLMAN MEN IN CONFERENCE WITH COMPANY HEADS

CHICAGO, Ill., March 26.—(By The Associated Negro Press)—This is Pullman Porter week in the Windy City. Chicago admittedly the center of all things which affect the wearers of the well known "Uncle Georges Blue" is acting as host to the group of representatives elected by a country wide vote of the 9984 porters and maids to confer with representatives of the management of the Pullman Company and negotiate an agreement on rules governing working conditions.

The porters and maids were recently granted an increase of pay amounting to 8 per cent., but the men have contended for certain changes in working conditions involving the number of hours to constitute a day, overtime and "signing out" rules. The company therefore decided to follow the same procedure used with their conductors and by various other large industrial organizations, that of arranging for employee representation to present their grievances, discuss them with company officials, the two bodies to reach a decision as to the policy to be followed. The representatives were elected from each general district to this the first of the gatherings.

## Chicagoans Greet Delegates

The delegates to the conference which will last a week were introduced to the citizens of Chicago Thursday night at a public meeting which overflowed the boundaries of the Wabash Avenue "Y" auditorium, by the colored mechanics and shop workers of the Calumet shops. It was a brilliant occasion and gave to citizens generally an entirely new idea of the openings being made by colored men in the company's ranks other than as parties as well as a thorough appreciation of the calibre and ability of the men chosen to work for the best interests of their fellow employees.

Some twenty officials of the company, were present some appearing on the program which was punctuated by band, orchestra, quartet and vocal selections rendered by the Calumet Shop Workers' Organizations, the maids and porters. Perry W. Parker, president of the Pullman Porter's Benefit Association, probably the best known pullman man in the country and certainly the leader in all of the movements for the betterment of the group was master of ceremonies.

The company employs colored mechanics. Visitors were amazed when they learned that the Pullman Company has been quietly adding to the colored mechanics and employees

in their car manufacturing works, at the close of the conference, revealed the fact that the workers had mechanics engaged in every single type of work being done in Pullman management.

Plants. Machinists, carpenters, electricians, upholsterers, painters steel workers, and many others have learned their trades completely in the schools of the Pullman shops, starting as apprentices and now commanding high skilled workers wages. These men are employed in all the various shops at Buffalo, Wilmington, St. Louis, Port Worth and Chicago with St. Louis, where 80 per cent. of the shop employees are colored. The officials say they are making good. Many other big industrial concerns are watching the experiment closely and Perry Parker predicts many big plants will be opened to colored mechanics.

The representatives in attendance at the conference are: James Sexton, New Orleans district, as chairman; E. W. Willis, St. Louis district, as secretary; A. L. Totten, New York, Grand Central; A. A. Miller, Kansas City; M. C. Oglesby, Boston; A. Lancaster, Pennsylvania Terminal, New York; Berrie Tinsley, Portland, Oregon; P. A. Simms, Los Angeles; A. H. Hohman, San Francisco; A. S. Fisher, Denver, Col.; A. M. King, Chicago Central; S. T. Wynn, Pittsburgh; T. A. Jones, Jacksonville, Fla.; C. S. Wells, Cleveland, Ohio; D. Bass, Fort Worth, Texas; C. D. Hardin, Detroit, Michigan; A. S. Morris, Chicago, East; J. E. Stewart, Jersey City, Erie; J. D. Bannister, Philadelphia. The delegates are to be highly entertained during their stay.

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Every matter brought to the attention of the management is said to have been satisfactorily adjusted by the men in conference. The delegates departed Saturday for their homes to report back to the men of their districts, smiling and confident that the plan of sitting across the table and thrashing out differences was the right and proper one. The delegates were: James Sexton, New Orleans district, as chairman; E. W. Willis, St. Louis district, as secretary; A. L. Totten, New York, Grand Central; A. A. Miller, Kansas City; M. C. Oglesby, Boston; A. Lancaster, Penn. Terminal, New York; Berrie Tinsley, Portland, Ore.; P. A. Simms, Los Angeles; A. H. Hohman, San Francisco; A. S. Fisher, Denver, Col.; A. M. King, Chicago Central; S. T. Wynn, Pittsburgh; T. A. Jones, Jacksonville, Fla.; C. S. Wells, Cleveland, Ohio; D. Bass, Fort Worth, Texas; C. D. Hardin, Detroit, Mich.; A. S. Morris, Chicago, East; J. E. Stewart, Jersey City, Erie; J. D. Bannister, Philadelphia.

## Porters Win Four Per Cent. Wage Increase

## Improvement in Hours and Working Conditions Follow Conference In Chicago.

CHICAGO, Ill., April 3—With a voluntary four per cent increase in pay over their eight per cent increase granted some time ago, the Pullman Porters and Maids won the first skirmish in their fight with the Pullman Company here last week.

The announcement, coming

# National Pullman Porter Drive Begins Through Big Railroad Brotherhoods

CHICAGO, Ill., March 13—The Pullman porters movement for an independent organization received its greatest impetus when the legislative representative of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Engineers, and the organizer of the porters, and arrangements were made whereby the Pullman Porters and dining car employees, will coordinate their efforts with the sixteen standard labor organizations in the campaign to place before the American public, the legislative program of the American Railway Employees.

Following the initial meeting in Chicago which will be addressed by some of the leading executives of railway organizations, here will be regular meetings held in various parts of the country during the period of three months, at each of which a representative of the standard labor organizations will be present to advise and urge the men to organize and to affiliate with the Railway Men's International Benevolent Industrial Association, instead of permitting themselves to be led into the company plan organization fostered by the Pullman Company. It is believed that the Pullman Company in an effort to influence the porters will cite the fact that that Company is employing Negroes in its shops in large numbers, under the claim that this policy is the result of the company's fairness to the Race, rather than the result of economic conditions and the restrictions on immigration. While the porters are pleased to know that conditions make it possible for men of the race to receive such employment, the fact remains that the wages paid porters for the services they render, are inadequate to meet the porters' economic needs. Also the fact that the Pullman Company has widely advertised the 8% increase which is less than 16 cents a day to each porter, has seriously effected the source of income derived from tips, because of the false impression given the public.



Labor — 1924.

Unions, Strikes, etc.,

Texas.

## COLORED TRAINMEN WILL HOLD ANNUAL SESSION NEXT WEEK

Houston will be host next week to the colored trainmen of America, when the annual sessions of the Association of Colored Railway Trainmen and Protective Order of Railroad Trainmen will be held here from July 21 to 25. The sessions will be held in the auditorium of the Colored High school on San Felipe and delegates are expected here from Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Georgia, Florida, North and South Carolina, Virginia, Kentucky, Missouri, Kansas, Colorado, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Louisiana, Nebraska and Texas. 7-19-24

While the formal opening of the convention will take place Monday, July 21, the public exercises will be held in the high school auditorium Tuesday night, July 22, beginning at 8 o'clock. The Houston public is cordially invited to attend the public functions of the convention.

Delegates, visitors and friends will visit Galveston Thursday, July 24, via the Interurban, cars leaving City Auditorium at 5 p.m., and returning leave Galveston at 11:30 p.m.

On Friday night, July 25, the big banquet will be held at the home of the American Mutual, 714½ Prairie avenue, and this affair is open to the public. An admission fee of 75c per plate will prevail for this event and tickets are now on sale at the People's Pharmacy, 415 Milam street.

The women's auxiliaries to these organizations will supervise the "Colored Trainmen's week-of-joy" in Houston and Houstonians generally are expected to contribute their share in welcoming and entertaining the delegates and visitors.

The local arrangement committee consists of S. M. Macklin, W. B. Jones and T. A. Guyton, and these men are leaving no stone unturned to make the annual convention a red-letter occasion in the history of the organizations.



Labor-1924.

Unions, Strikes, etc.,

## DECADE SAW BIG INCREASE SKILLED LABOR

### Newly Appointed Commissioner of Conciliation Reviews Race's Progress in Labor in Address.

Bluefield, W. Va., July 10—(P. N. S.)—Atty. Karl F. Phillips, newly appointed Commissioner of Conciliation in the U. S. Department of Labor, was the orator of the day at the Fourth of July celebration and conference of the Miners' Welfare Meeting of the Pocahontas district, at Pocahontas Va. Commissioner Phillips said in part:

"Our race invested two hundred million dollars in Liberty Bonds; we have 72 banks, 36 insurance companies, 218,972 farms, 320 newspapers, 50 building and loan associations, and church property worth eighty-seven million dollars. When it is considered that 61 years ago we started with empty hands, I cannot see why we should be discouraged.

#### ADVANCEMENT OF NEGRO LABOR

"Four million, eight hundred twenty-four thousand one hundred fifty-one colored people in the United States ten years of age and over, are engaged in gainful occupations in the onward march of American Independence. In agriculture and forestry there are 2,178,888; in the extraction of minerals there are 73,229; in the manufacturing and mechanical industries there are 312,421; in trade occupations there are 140,467; in public service there are 60,552; in professional service there are 80,183; in domestic and personal service there are 1,064,590; and in clerical occupations there are

37,011.

"In the mines there are 598 foreman, overseers and inspectors; 25 operatives, officials and managers; 54,432 coal mine operatives; 71 copper mine operatives; 85 gold and silver mine operatives; 5,312 iron mine operatives; 280 lead and zinc mine operatives; 6,305 quarry operatives; 1,844 oil, gas and salt well operatives; and 3,000 unclassified mine workers. These are colored men and women—contributions to American Independence. They represent approximately one-thirteenth of the entire mining forces of America.

#### WATCHFULNESS OF GOVERNMENT

"Unlike many nations, which have risen to false fame upon the labor of their people, without just rewards to them in the way of the privilege of self-government and the unlimited chance to contribute to, and share in, the advancement of their country, America has sought to conserve her efficient labor forces, whose toil and whose productive value have eventually received high consideration from a government which is truly one of the people, no matter how meek or lowly any single human unit may be. This regard is a just one, for, after all, it is the masses of workers who have made possible our advance to world leadership.

#### INCREASE IN SKILLED CLASSES

"The past ten years have witnessed the greatest advancement of Negro labor that America has ever seen. Within this period we have moved into a calm era of full work and fair wages.

"Of particular interest to the whole country has been the gradual increase in the inclusion of skilled Negro labor in America industrial life. This is true in such typical pursuits as are necessary in the production of some of our most needed articles. In New York City, I found that one of the large transit companies is now opening its occupations, almost without exception, to colored workers. More and more as an element of the American group, the colored worker is realizing his ambitions and opportunities."

Virginia.

Social improvements, educational advancement and community interests were fittingly dwelled upon by Commissioner Phillips. Many of the members of the Miners' Welfare Conference declared that Commissioner Phillips had delivered one of the most practical and instructive addresses it had been their pleasure to hear for many years.

Commissioner Phillips, who is known throughout the country because of his long and expert service in the Labor Department, stressed the labor question in a most comprehensive manner; racial progress and the functions of the Government as related to community life in America were explained in a very instructive manner. An enthusiastic, but thoughtful audience was in attendance. The Methodist Episcopal church was crowded. Hundreds had to be turned away because of inability to gain admission to the church auditorium. Following the conference Commissioner Phillips left for Chicago, Ill., on official business.

### Samuel Gompers and Negro Labor

EVER since public insult was tendered to Frank J. Farrell, Negro delegate to the October, 1886, Convention of the Knights of Labor, held in Richmond, Va.—a labor organization which formed a portion of the parental stock of the American Federation of Labor—naught but antipathies blossomed in the breasts of Negro workmen in their attitude toward organized white labor, until the advent of Samuel J. Gompers, late president of the American Federation of Labor, in whose passing Negro labor has suffered a distinct loss, notwithstanding the industrial differences which still prevail, as between the two racial labor groups.

It must be admitted that during his reign, Samuel J. Gompers did sound the call of "peace" to the black labor forces of America. The doughty Jewish labor leader could not, of course, control all his subordinate officials, nor could he erase the country-wide prejudice of the white man, which, too, found its way into the organization of the American Federation of Labor. Mr. Gompers did, however, do much to encourage Negro labor to organize, and he was vehement in his protests to local branches of the A. F. of L., which persisted in dealing unjustly with Negro workmen. His sentiments have been put upon record in numerous conferences which issued an invitation to membership by Negro workers. And his "fair-play" attitude has been repeatedly in evidence in conferences at which Negro labor leaders have frankly asked for full recognition for their group by the A. F. of L.

At the present time there are approximately 165 local Negro unions, comprising 6,500 members. At best, this is a poor representation, so far as organized labor is concerned. Negroes comprise one-sixth of America's working masses, and should be given the full privilege of presenting their quota to the A. F. of L. Furthermore, the white members of that organization should bottle up their prejudices and realize that the labor interests of one are the labor interests of all.

Samuel J. Gompers, in his heart, recognized this truth. He practiced it during his long incumbency, and it is to be hoped that his successor in office will carry the program forward, flinging wide the gates and protecting the virtues of all labor, whether it be white or black.

### Immigrant Labor— "Then" and "Now"

African (black) aliens, contained in the immigrant labor group seeking employment in this country, has increased during the period 1920 to 1924 to over one per cent, as compared with one-half of one per cent during the five years prior to the World War.

These percentages are plainly indicated by figures which show that during 1920-1924, 578,158 immigrant aliens, a yearly average of 115,623, sought the fields and factories of American production. Of these numbers, there was a total inclusion of 6,622 Negro laborers, a yearly average of 1,324, or about one per cent.

During 1910-1914, the total number of immigrant aliens admitted was 2,210,481, a yearly average of 442,096. Of these numbers there was a total inclusion of 9,893 Negro laborers, a yearly average of 1,979, or about one-half of one per cent.

Seeking significant conclusions, we face the following indisputable facts: The total incoming immigrant alien labor group suffered the tremendous drop from 2,210,481, during 1910-1914, to 578,158, during 1920-1924; but the Negro content, during that comparative period, only fell from 9,893 to 6,622, and while it fell in quantity, its percentage jumped from one-half of one per cent to one per cent in the ratio of inclusion. The Cape Verde Islands, a Portuguese possession off the West Coast of Africa, furnished the largest number of admissions.

A continuation of this trend reveals significant probabilities. With restricted immigration in force, and American labor holding its own, it is apparent that the rise of negro labor may continue its onward march to permanency and advancement. A reduction in the inflow of foreign labor, with a larger percentage of Negro aliens, means a reduced competition with foreign labor, which is of a lower standard and lesser efficiency than American labor.

The many helpful programs, which are now being put into effect by American institutions which realize that Negro labor needs ample protection and assistance, are slowly building up a lasting foundation, the purpose of which is to place Negro labor in this country upon the same firm footing that all other labor has so long enjoyed. This is truly constructive and should stimulate the Negroes of the country to put their shoulders to the industrial wheel in such a way as to make the task one of far-reaching effect and full of permanent benefits to all concerned.

### Women's Dilemma?

A little bird told us that the female contingent of the campaign forces which put over the Republican ticket, last November, are in a dilemma. In fact, it is being whispered around that their dilemma may take some of the "move" out of "movement," so far as "aspirations for service" are concerned. This situation is said to be due to the fact that the group of ladies has not made a careful study of what may be available at the pie counter; and that such few "possibilities" as have been unearthed up to this time have instantly become the target of a bevy of female aspirants, without counsel, without plan, and without organization.

Added to this melting-pot of aspirant activities, the old sectional questions have developed, causing a warmth of feeling here and there, but not of the kind that produces coalition and unity of action.

The campaign female folks did excellent work, from Miss Hallie Q. Brown and Mrs. M. C. Lawton on down to the humble distributors of "flyers" and "squibs"; and those who were not amply rewarded



in long green and yellow are not to be blamed for seeking fireside seats in the contemplated distribution of "plums." Before this event can be staged, however, the legend of Rudyard Kipling as to the "Female Species" must be pigeon-holed, and a healthy spirit of co-operation under a well-defined agreement must be put into play.

Surely, there's lots of work for the efficient women to seek. For instance, there's educational work relating to the advancement of Negro youth, male and female. There's industrial work of fifty-seven varieties. There's health work, under Federal and State posts. There is executive work of varied descriptions. There's miscellaneous field work of many different types.

Or, if there's any dilemma besetting the faithful women, it ought not to be based upon wonderment as to where to go. Rather, it might be well expended upon the question of how to go. And even this problem could be instantly swept aside by honest-to-goodness union and progress. Ladies, our hats will then be off to you; for we wish you success.

## Life on the "Limited"

Last week we took a nineteen-hour spin at a fifty-mile-per-hour clip on the "Capitol Limited," the crack Chicago-Washington-Baltimore (and back again) flyer of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad; and if home or hotel were to be silently transferred to the aisles and vestibules of this transportation marvel one would never know the difference. In fact, life on the "Limited" is sort of a super de luxe existence.

You may think that we are over-optimistic, but we are sure we are merely stating facts when we say that the outstanding virtue of life on the "Limited" is the extraordinary service which is given to its passengers by a corps of highly skilled Negro employees of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad and the Pullman Company, working on a hand-in-glove basis, and co-operating with each other in fractionless fashion.

For instance, there was the ladies' maid, Miss B. Robinson, of Chicago, of whom the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad officials say: "She is a very competent manicurist. The porter of your car will arrange for her services at your request."

Although we didn't indulge in the luxury of a manicuring, and didn't need the services of the porter for summoning purposes, we did cultivate his close friendship for other obvious reasons. His name we found to be Philip L. Bolden, of 1118 Myrtle avenue, Baltimore, Md., and, believe it or not, he seemed to have second sight, for he always seemed to know what you wanted him to do, and he had the knack of doing it before you had a chance to ask him. His contemporaries on the "Limited" are Stanley M. Fields, Henry Satterfield, and A. J. Finn, of Baltimore; Chester McIntosh, of New York, and C. N. Walker, of Philadelphia—the most expert corps of berth makers we have ever seen on any train.

Sure, we ate on the "Limited" and the meal was cooked and served with dexterity and amid smiles by James C. Johnson, Harold Shackley, John W. Smith, George Eberhardt, Percy A. Newman, E. W. Roberts, James W. Houston, Raymond J. Brown, Louis Montgomery, C. F. Hall, and Oscar Hudson, all of Chicago, Ill. The Chicagoans seemed to have the "corner" on the "eats" while J. L. Parker, another Baltimorean, served sparkling ale and White Rock in the Club car.

Speaking more seriously, the Negro crew seemed pleased with their work; and their attitude bespeaks the fact that the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company and the Pullman Company must make a good "doubleheader" boss. Their excellent services are a tribute to high-class transportation employers, and if, as President Woodrow Wilson used to say, "the

railroads are the arteries of the country," then, the efficient Negro "comfort" train crews must be the veins.

Furthermore, we would say a brief word to the public. The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad is a sticker to the policy of "serving the public." Colored passengers who ride the former "Royal Blue Line" with any degree of frequency are unanimous in their testimony that the "Bando" road gives them the same courteous service, the same lower berths, and the same seats that are dispensed to other passengers. With the "Bando" money, talks, and services are non-discriminatory.

The whole situation is a fine display of common sense on the part of the "Bando" and the Pullman Company officials to whom we would express the hope that they increase the number of their Negro employees, both on rail and in shops—for they have MADE GOOD.



Labor—1924.

West Virginia.

Unions, Strikes, etc.,

# NEGRO WORKER MADE TO SCAB BY EXCLUSION

WHEELING, W. Va., Sept. 18.—A scathing attack on the trade unions of West Virginia for excluding Negro workers from membership was made by Thomas Edward Hill, of the Bureau of Negro Statistics of Charleston, at the 14th annual convention of the West Virginia Federation of Labor held here.

9-19-24  
"Negroes do not want to work in non-union shops, on non-union jobs or on jobs where other men have walked out on strike," Hill told the delegates. "By refusing to take them into your organization you force them to work against you. Were every labor union in West Virginia to open its rolls to Negro workers you would see the Negro strikebreakers disappear entirely in a very short time."



Labor—1924:

Kansas.

Welfare Work ~~and~~ Housing Conditions.

EDUCATION MADE PRACTICAL

Topeka, Kan.—The Kansas Industrial and Educational Institute is carrying the work of this institution to the people in what seems to be a most practical and helpful way. They have thrown open their institution to the apprentices of the Santa Fe shops, so that the young men can come to school and advance themselves and graduate at the same time they complete their trades at the shops. These young men are from 18 to 22 years of age, and the work promises to be most helpful from every point of view.—Topeka Plaindealer.



Labor - 1924.

Welfare Work for Housing Conditions.

# THE EVOLUTION OF THE MODERN INDUSTRIAL COMMUNITY AS AN ELEMENT IN SOLUTION OF THE RACE PROBLEM

The Stockham Pipe and Fittings Plant

The Shipping Department.

By S. R. W. Smith

That which makes a complex whole unit be made up of unique parts. This is true in the animal organism and can be seen in its life's struggle from its

state of homogeneous and undifferentiated protoplasm to the perfected specialized cells of the special organs of the human body—that stretch of animal development which engaged the thought of Huxley, Spencer and Darwin, and became the basis of the theory of evolutionism the plant and animal kingdoms. The Stockham Pipe and Fittings plant is in many respects unique, and for the same reason that any complex whole may be said to be unique; viz, it is an organization of unique parts. One of these is the shipping department. Here as in other parts there is to be noticed the completeness of the vision of the needs of this department. Every inch of floor space is utilized—*5-2-21* is crowded but not confused. Scales for weighing the barrels of fittings are placed at intervals, this arrangement makes long hauls of the material unnecessary and multiplies the power of the men to handle the wares. The desks of shipping clerks are at more frequent intervals. I counted some dozen or more of these desks. The clerks all seem busy each at the routine of his individual section of this big inclosure, and I

might say in passing that most of the men who do this highly specialized work are colored men. I was impressed especially how noiselessly they worked—how orderly they proceeded to the details of the shipping schedule.

## A New River With Strange Fish In It

Just before leaving the shipping department my guide showed me the assorting department. Here are numerous bins and pigeon-holes for holding the classified fittings. These fittings are taken from these bins in filling orders. But I was impressed with the assorting belt which seemed to be some three or four feet wide and moved along at length of 50 or 60 feet. Its movement was slow. It bore on its surface in trough-like depressions all sorts of small fittings. A number of young people watched this belt and each one was engaged in getting some one special fitting as it passed. They reminded me of fishing in the streams of my fathers farm in Dallas County, with the difference that my fish were of flesh and were to be used to fill the stomachs of the home folk, but the fish I saw in this strange stream were destined to feed the greedy man of trade. And the fishers on this stream were black folks and no one got the idea that Riley the Hoosier poet expressed as "so lazy that he could flatten out like molasses on a plate and drip off" into dreams that don't never return. Fishing for iron fish at Stockham requires everlasting alertness.

## Cooper Department.

Another department through which I went is the cooper department. Stockham builds its own barrels. The capacity per day is several hundred Negro labor and skill play a great part in the out put of this very essential department. The cooper and shipping departments being largely operated through colored labor spell out the Negro fitness for highly spe-

Alabama.

cialized and ultimately systematized labor.

## Colored Women on the Core Floor.

I was in a mining community not long since and saw some ladies file out of the big office door and move toward the slope. A miner remarked, "If dem women goes any further, I'll not go down dat slop today. Bad luck for men when the women comes on de works." Happily this superstition has not fastened onto the men at Stockham. For I saw a squad of some 25 or 30 Negro women at work on the core floor. Their presence brought back to my mind that strenuous season of War Time emergency when women in order to do their bit as patriots to support the patriots on the firing line, pulled off the cork heel shoes and escaped her whale-bone imprisonment and worked beside the men in almost every avenue of industry. They are doing this work of handling the cores for the numerous fittings with remarkable success and to a great degree of efficiency.

## Medical Dispensary.

In the medical dispensary are treated all cases of accidents and illness of the workman. The safety rules of the plant bring the percentage of accidents superlatively low, but when an inquiry is sustained by an employe he is given every needed service from first aid to a major surgical operation. The company is very careful that this work be kept up to a high standard of genuineness and thoroughness. They are striving to teach the valuable lesson that a "stitch in time saves nine." Many a case of septicaemia has resulted from the fact that the uninitiated know not the value of surgical cleanliness of slight wounds. These object lessons in every day industrial life, of taking the proper care of wounds cannot help but have a beneficent effect upon our people who in many cases have practiced the old spider method of stopping the bleeding. It will be reflected in their home life also. So that, in a more or less remote manner, there medical adjuncts to the modern industrial community, are laying for the race the foundations for a saner solution of the race's health problem.

## Physical Basis of Good Cheer in Office Force.

At a certain hour of the day the office forces goes out in the open air to take exercise. The ladies on one side and the men on the other are led by trained athletes in physical culture movements calculated to tone

up the body and excel the proverbial enemy of the office. The drill is strategically placed in the day's program—that is, about an hour and a half after the lunch hour. No wonder the general good cheer of the Stockham big office. The stagnant blood is accelerated to give balance to the mental main spring and to even up the tapering energy of the day. This is a fine practice.

To recapitulate: I have given the result of a brief study of the Stockham Pipe & Fittings Co.'s plant. Without exaggeration I have discussed (a) An introductory word concerning the worthiness the South's captains of industry, setting forth the wonderful degree of fair play and strict business righteousness which they practice in their industrial organizations; (b) The writers motive stated; viz, the good of my people, the good of the South, the good of Birmingham and the surrounding localities and the good of those Southern heroes who have built up this section's industrial fabric; (c) Readiness with which I was received and the aid given me in prosecuting this brief studying; (d) What I learned in an interview with the supervisor of employes; (e) The soul of the South's industrial systems; (f) How Stockham has placed the construction in the ascendancy over the destructive; (g) Barriers burned away by the bath house; (h) Big part the Stockham Night School is playing; (i) in the life of the plant and (2) in the life of the men; (h) The rather larger opportunities of Negro workers at Stockham; (i) The shipping department; the cooper department and colored women workers; (j) secret of the cheerful office atmosphere. These things have all been touched upon from the view-point of an eye witness. I now see that facts often beggar fiction. I know that there is being worked out right here in our neighborhood some irrefutable answers to some stock arguments of race questions.

And I conclude by saying that these great corporations are doing what Christ did. When he had healed the lame man and he went on his way rejoicing, leaping and praising God—they (that is His carping critics) could say nothing against it. Jesus had silenced them. When that part of the country that has been so prone to criticize the South, and those individuals who know least about real conditions here suggest some foreign and farfetched remedy, they need but to do as I have done—put on a badge of admission duly signed and look the situation over with unbiased mind.

They will conclude with me that this thing of a chance to work under favorable conditions—with due safe guards and for good wages—with every encouragement that a humanitarian spirit and a Christian heart can give—is a boon. Life and liberty without a chance to work for the things that secure happiness do not solve mankind's problem of complete living. But as long as there are about us and bidding for our labor such plants as Stockham and numerous others in and around Birmingham, the industrial backbone of Alabama, we shall be moving on to the solution of the Race Problem. The poet sang truth when he said.

"Employment, employment  
Ah! that is enjoyment!  
Good heart-occupation  
Is health and salvation,  
A secret that's known to but few."

I am praying for the time soon to come when some well worked out scheme can be put through for the bettering of the economic life of the race by which a larger percentage of his everyday earnings will be salvaged from the drone and sharks and leeches of society.



# THE EVOLUTION OF THE MODERN INDUSTRIAL COMMUNITY AS AN ELEMENT IN SOLUTION OF THE RACE PROBLEM

Wood Lumber Company—A Study.

The Wood Lumber Company is doing a fine retail lumber and building materials business in Birmingham. They have a location on the railroad and a spur of siding which most conveniently touches all the parts of the plant, placing in and out going orders with dispatch. There is no superstitious fears of the "Magic 13," as they are located on 13th and 13th. Perhaps the lesser magic of 13 is lost in the greater magic of the Magic City. They have a predilection for imposing signs. On one of their signs the bold letters of the firm name stand out as if they were not flat on the sign board, but at a very attractive angle to it, producing the optical illusion of a board pierced by an arrow of letters. The sign painter of the Southern Lumber company did himself paint and Wood Lumber company, a splendid service in the highly artistic way in which that sign was painted. For in this sign his paint brush played a challenging trick on the admiring public.

## Source of Material: Meeting Manager.

The stock of lumber handled by Wood Lumber company is obtained from Southern Alabama and Mississippi. They purpose to carry only the best material obtainable and are ready to give best bargains in these wares to those who need them. I was very much impressed with the direct way in which things are done in the office where the manifold affairs of this business are administered. I presented my letter of credentials to one gentleman, who read it. Without hesitancy he directed me to one Mr. Albert W. Dilworth, the manager. Now Mr. Dilworth is a big man, big-hearted man and a fine type of Southern gentleman and a finer type of the newest ideas and ideals in Southern manager men, most especially as relates to Negro employees. It is a veritable cor-

dial to meet and talk with such men. He expressed his delight to have The Birmingham Reporter carry a news story concerning the colored men in his employ. "Get around among them," said he, "and learn from them how things are."

## Prepared to Serve.

Wood Lumber company is prepared to serve in a complete way those interested in building materials, paint, lumber, roofing, doors, windows, screen doors, brick, lime, sand, builder's hardware, oak floors can be had at Woods. On the several trucks run by the company they have the "ad" "See Wood for Wood." As I got about the plant saw the work as it was being handled, talked with men who had spent long tenures of service with the company, I felt like changing that "ad" so that it would read, "See the Right Kind of Wood for the Right Kinds of Wood." There is a beautiful spirit of the camp at Woods.

## Testimony of Men as to Treatment.

I talked with Philip Mayfield, who has seen 15 years in the service of the company; with John Harper, six years old in point of service, and others. These men concur in the claim that "Wood Lumber company is one of the best in the world to work for and we have such a good manager. About forty colored men work here and there is never any friction between us and the white men. We love our work here because of the fact that conditions are favorable."

## Kinds of Work.

Here are graders of lumber, mill helpers, truck helpers, loaders, wagoners. There is a cluster of bins for detail work. I saw Negro men frequenting these bins in the act of filling orders. Nothing more clock-work like than the movements of these men who waste no steps, because they know what to do, where to go and how and when and where. I did not hear a single cuss word during my ramble through the plant.

## Transportation Equipment.

Besides the easy access to the Frisco railroad lines there is the following addition to the transportation equipment. There are two single and two double wagons, 5 big trucks especially designed lumber trucks. They combine both the old and the new ideas in traffic handling. Colored men drive these wagons and are help-

ers on these trucks. Through the means of these trucks and wagons the big line of lumber and building material traffic moves on oilily.

## Stables and Garages.

The Wood company barn is a combination of feed stable and garage. The old and new modes of traffic join hands. Both sides of this unique barn are furnishers of fuel to move the rolling stock of the company. On one side oat, sweet feed and alfalfa furnish the fuel through the alimentary track of the big mules that draw the big wagons, on the other side gasoline is the fuel fed through the motors of the mighty benzine buggies that ride Woods lumber products to the ends of the city.

## Disabled Men Cared For.

When one of the men employed by the company becomes disabled he is not cast off to die, but a representative of the company divines his needs and then reports. Such steps are then taken as necessary to relieve the condition.

## Big Annual Events.

The employees and the firm all look forward to Labor Day picnic and barbecue as one of the big events of the year. Free transportation, free barbecue dinner, watermelons galore and fun in plenty. White and colored employees with their families and friends usually from 250 to 300, spend the day. Twin tables are set and they all fare sumptuously. Christmas time is when every employe of the Wood Lumber company receives a Christmas gift. Of course, these grown-ups have outgrown their youthful belief in Santa Claus, but they have not outgrown their power to appreciate a present at Yuletide. The September outing generally is characterized by free music.

## The Reaction.

We cannot live to ourselves. What we do or fail to do affects our fellows. These claims of good treatment and pleasant relationships have a cementing effect. It is a good grade of cement in the industrial fabric of the South. It is this that makes the Negro North look back to the Sunny South whenever things go wrong up there. It is this that makes the South prefer Negro labor to that of foreigners—that makes the Negro the greatest and most dependable factor in the industries of the South.



Welfare Work for Housing Conditions

# THE EVOLUTION OF THE MODERN INDUSTRIAL COMMUNITY AS AN ELEMENT IN SOLUTION OF THE RACE PROBLEM

The N. C. Banks General Contractors  
Firm—A Study.

Just where the busy First avenue bearing the congested East Lake traffic, intersects 25th street, is where you will find the offices of this construction company. They occupy the twin offices with the Reynold Lumber Company.

## Destructionist versus Constuctionist.

The world's great forces are arrayed antagonistically. In the plant and animal kingdoms where goes on an endless succession of changes, more or less closely related, these forces which build up give rise to anabolism, while those forces which tear down produce a trend known as katabolism. The muscles of the body are flexors and extensors—the parts of the physiological economy are either distal or approximal, internal or external, inferior or superior. This antagonistic aspect of things looms up in every stage of life. Great building concerns are incomplete unless they have a destructive as well as a constructive organization or equipment. When a dilapidated old wooden building must be replaced by a skyscraper, much that is destructive must come into play before the construction can begin. Even where the building has to be erected on a vacant site, the excavators must destroy the form and contour of the earth in that particular place to find solid foundation for the proposed structure. No much work of excavation is done by the colored men and their work is fundamental and eminently essential.

## The General Contractors Place.

In the world's program of progress

the contractor, general, with both construction and destruction wings of his army of workers, is very necessary.

Warehouses, store-houses, school-houses, church-houses, apartment houses, hotels, banks, dwellings, and what not, must be built. The many phases of work that must be done are all assembled in one compact by the general contractor. He assumes the total responsibility, and proceeds, by patent principles of division of labor, to parcel out to subcontractors, the carpentry, the masonry, the mital work, the painting, the roofing, the excavation, the wiring, the plumbing and decorating. His major risk lies in his guarantee that he will so superintend all these that the finished product will be the working out from the blue print into all the forms of materials the substantial counterpart of the plans and specifications of the architect.

## Negro Workers with Banks

At present there are about 80 colored workers in the employ of this firm that is doing so much of the building in progress in Greater Birmingham. And there is just now some building in progress in the Magic City. These 80 men are scattered around on a score of jobs, big and little, throughout the city. They are general laborers. Some are truck drivers. They have mastered the details of the city traffic and travel laws and so stir the wheels of the rolling stock of this construction company clear of trouble through so congested a network of streets and avenues, o hills and hollows as Birmingham presents.

The Negro is doing everything from near skilled labor. The official of the company whom I interviewed informed me that the colored men are very dependable workers in the main. Most of them remain for a longer or shorter period of years. Few, however, are of that "straggling sort" that does not "stick."

## Advantages of Long-Time Workers

This advantage is a two-edged sword; it cuts both ways. The firm gets better service the longer the worker remains on the job learning more and more about it. The em-

ployes are given trust and help in pro-children, which is very commendable. portion as they remain through the Birmingham is Alabama's highest revolving years. The firm cannot index of opportunity for a working take much interest of an expensive man to rightly compare the adjection sort in the worker who does not stay; (?) "getting on;" namely, "getting but, when a worker has some "age" on," "getting owner," and "getting with the firm he can get more favors. honest."

Disabled, old employees (I mean in Whether the pay is by the day, the point of years in the employ of the hour or the week, the pay is prompt. company), are taken care of and so I was there on Tuesday and I saw are wed to their employers and em some men lined up at the window ployment. Exodus cannot make flee-drawing money. This would have ing Tartars of men like these. We, as seemed natural for Saturday of the 1st a race, must begin to learn the ad-or 15th of the month. But I was in-vantages of a seniority in an indus-formed that Banks will pay off every trial system such as ours is, and cease day if the request is made that they to chase around from job to job—do so.

cease to be mere wandering satillites

in the constellations labor. "The roll-

ing stone gathers no moss." The

vagabond worker is next door to the

vagrant, and the vagrant is antagonis-

tic to all that is constructive in the

modern civilization. He is to the

business and industrial world what

inertia is to the world of matter.

Work is overcoming inertia. Progress

is overcoming the set back of va-

grancy with a resrve which we style

success.

## Twenty Year Jack Thomas.

My own experience is that in most great firms and industrial plants there are a few Negroes who know every-

thing about everything in every department of the works. The Knoxville Woolen Mills, of Knoxville, Tenn., has a colored employee of this sort in the person of A. C. Copeland. This plant, when I had the pleasure of going through it some ten years ago, gave work to 2500 men and women. Much of the power used was through dynamos. These dynamos were in charge of A. C. Copeland. He was with the company when this lightning draft-horse was harnessed up. He understood the harness. Copeland took sick and the company had to build for him a house within the plant so as to get certain information which he seemed to monopolize.

Jack Thomas has been 20 years in the employ and service of the Banks Contractor company. He is aged now but still very essential. He sits there not for the good he has been altogether, but for the good he still is. He is general custodian, an old ace with a pedigree, a high record of honesty and dependability. Take it from me, the Jack Thomases have done and are doing our race more good than the Jack Johnsons.

## Some Home Owners Among Negroes.

Some of these colored men are saving their money and investing it in homes and in the education of their

## Pension for Superannuates.

A pension is provided for the

"aged." Jack Thomas is a pensioner.

There is a marked trend in that direc-

tion now-a-days. Men, whose brawn

and brain, and body and life, have

been mixed in mortar that turned

out the prescri. for the success

of a great industrial plant, are not

now turned out to "root hog, or die a

poor pig." Some provision is being

made by all up-to-date concerns for

these men who are ground to powder

in the machinery of the world's work

and their past labors are graciously

earned for their own up-keep and

that of their dependents.



S. R. W. Smith.



Labor - 1924.

Welfare Work for Housing Conditions.

# THE EVOLUTION OF THE MODERN INDUSTRIAL COMMUNITY AS AN ELEMENT IN SOLUTION OF THE RACE PROBLEM

By S. R. W. Smith.

This is the concluding article for the present concerning

"The Evolution of the Modern Industrial Community as an element in the Solution of the Race Problem" as seen in its working at



S. R. W. Smith.

the American Cast Iron Pipe Company. This company is not one that parades its doings. It has always been averse to publicity. But a wonderful Christian courage has run through its operation all these years. Christ is the end of the law for righteousness. The inculcation of the principles of Jesus Christ is the most effectual bombardment against the ramparts of unrighteousness, against the stronghold of evil. His principles are not theoretical. They are practical. They are applicable to all relations in life. No matter of moment to mankind can be so small that it cannot be adjusted by His principles—none so mammoth that it cannot be trueed up by the plumb-line of the righteousness of Christ. This has ever been true whether we consider the infinitesimal or the infinite. God's acre covers the field of microscope as well as the range of the telescope.

## A Recapitulation

It is the purpose of this study of the social life as one of the environments of the industrial systems of Birmingham and of Jefferson County and Alabama to follow, as nearly as is consistent with a clear statement of me, "I have been getting a turkey facts, a general outline. In these articles we have touched upon the following:

(a) Some Points on the Meager Be-

ginnings; (b) Stages in Progress to Present Magnitude; (c) Principle Mainly Responsible for the Prevailing Spirit of the Plant; (d) Ramifications and Unfoldments of the Corporations Ideals; (e) Is the Social Industrial System a Variable that tends to Complete Living as a Legitimate Limit? (f) To What Degree is the Community a Practical Working-out and Realization of the Correctness of These Principles and Ideals? (g) The Paramount Test: (1) Satisfied employers; (2) Satisfied Employees; (3) Satisfactory Work; (4) Permanent and Growing Demands for the Products; (5) A General Thriving Condition. (h) Distribution of the Earnings of the Company.

## The Paramount Test

In talking with more than one of the officials of the company I have heard the expressions: "We are satisfied we are right!" "We feel that we are proceeding along right lines." This is the consensus of opinion. The acid test of a business from the standpoint of the management is: Are they satisfied with the results of their investment? There seems to be an added satisfaction,—that which comes from a satisfied conscience which is far nobler than merely satisfied coffers. It is true that from the monetary point of view they are satisfied. For there are no withdrawals. All feel safe. And a number of the employees are owners of stock in the company. All, black and white, not only have the privilege to own stock, but are urged to do so. A second test is, Are the employees satisfied? Judging from the observations which I have made I conclude that the employees are eminently satisfied. Just one case will, I think, convince you that my conclusion is justifiable. There is a Negro employee, Mr. Jack Hughlah, who is now ill—who did not miss a shift in thirteen years. He said to me, "I have been getting a turkey every year since the company began offering turkeys for every-day-in-the-year work." Now, no one would work thirteen years without losing a shift

## Alabama.

unless he was satisfied, a prisoner or a slave. These workers not only are free but have a voice in the councils of the company. In the bath house the other day I overheard a conversation between two colored workmen. One said, "Just as soon as the weather breaks I'm going North." To this the other responded: "Now you can't do no better nowhere under the sun than you can here. I know what I'm talking about, I done tried it." The third test is, "Is the work satisfactory?" The answer to this question must have regard to the extra ordinary expenditures made by the company for the safety, comfort and complete well-being of the men who work in the various departments of the plants activities. Is the work improved by reason of these things? You may get a more or less correct idea of this matter by this consideration. Waste in pipe making has been a considerable item and constituted a big liability. But the golden rule management causes the workers to be ever on the alert to see that unnecessary waste in any part of the shop be checked. Much of the increased net earnings of the shop is due to this waste-checking which is carefully guarded by every true spirited Acipco worker. As long as the checking of waste was external and coercive it was not successful but now the men and the foremen cooperate to exterminate waste from the plant. And although it has not altogether been stopped it has been changed from the column of liabilities into the column of assets. The increase in general financial ability of the company is in direct ratio to the decrease in waste. But the work is satisfactory from other points of view. The decreased lay offs; decrease in lateness for beginning shifts; decrease in accidents due to the very sane code of safety rules; decrease in sickness of employees and their families due to the sanitary conditions and medical service; decrease in loafing on the job—all make for an eminently satisfactory brand of work. It is marvelous to see the amount of general and specific skill these work men have gained. And skilled labor is always more satisfactory than unskilled labor. The management is slow to "fire," and by this policy has reduced the number of green men on the job to a minimum. This pushes the efficiency of the plant on toward the maximum point. Another test is the permanent and growing demand for the products. Advance orders means just this: The growing demand for the pipe that bears the brand of "Acipco." The continual extension of

the plant's productive powers is nothing but a conscious effort to meet the growing demands.

## Distribution of the Company's Earnings

In one way and another the employees participate in the earnings of the company. Notably among these ways of participation in the earnings of the company is the co-operative store where everything is at rock bottom prices, so that there is a decided advantage to the worker in purchasing his food and plain clothing from this store. I have named in previous articles the other things that the men enjoy from this source.

## Conclusion in a Word

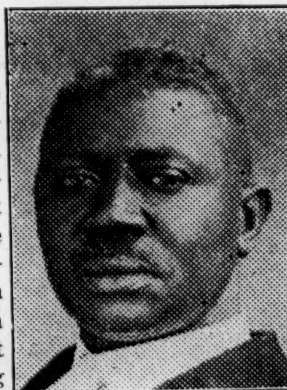
In a word, I conclude that The Evolution of the Modern Industrial Community as an Element in the Solution of the Race Problem as seen in the plant and surroundings of the American Cast Iron Pipe Company is proving a big success. It will be the general mode of address to this great problem in the industrial systems of the south.

# THE EVOLUTION OF THE MODERN INDUSTRIAL COMMUNITY AS AN ELEMENT IN SOLUTION OF THE RACE PROBLEM

## American Bolt Company—A Study Another Tenth Avenue Plant

(By S. R. W. Smith)

The American Bolt Company Works have a very unpretentious front on 10th Avenue; but when once one has gained admission and begun a chain of most interesting discoveries



S. R. W. Smith.

(as it is impossible for him to escape) as he follows his guide there settles on him an appreciation for the company's efforts in the line of its work that will last a long time.

An interview with a manager who is a Christian business man of high type, on presenting my letter of introduction at the office of the American Bolt Co., I was informed that I

must see Mr. Munn, the Manager, who is out of the city. After more than one trial I saw Mr. Munn. He, I found, was acquainted with the Editor of the Birmingham Reporter. When he learned I was representing the Reporter he readily opened the way for me to get a first hand news story and freely talked with me about the Negro employees of the company. He is a close student of the industrial conditions of the country and of the South—and has a practical working knowledge of the Negro. Among the many things he said was this: "The Negro has a big capacity for happiness while the white man has too big a capacity for worry." The sunny, cheerful temperament of the black man, in his estimation, an asset of fine value. "We strive to do a good part by our Colored workers here," said Mr. Munn. This is witnessed by the fact that so large a percentage of them stay in the service of the company so many years. Every workman is insured. The amount of the

insurance increases with the years of service reaching a maximum of \$1,500 in five years. Several of the men have been paid this insurance already.

## Charlie Johnson, the Mill Wright

Charlie Johnson has been with the company 20 years. He says he has never had but three jobs in his life and I figured that he had been on his one about twenty times as long as on both the others put together. When I was led by Mr. Munn to the place where this man was at work repairing a belt, finding him busy, I had to wait a while until he would have the leisure to escort me about the plant. While waiting I looked on the mesh-work of the belts and pulleys and shaftings. A line of shafting some 75 feet long, with belt wheels active and idle, with many wheels of varying circumferences, with belts of many lengths and sizes sprang off a complex of motions and gave communicated movements to several complicated machines. I listened to the whirl and the whirl of the machine shop. I drank in the music of industry. I saw Vulcan, on the modern Olympus of Commerce,



fashioning the thunderbolts to be used in the industrial battles of present day civilization. I saw at least one detachment of this vast army was a black phalanx. And they occupied an important garrison. I saw this black mill wright adjust a ladder, climb to its top and mix up with the cogs and belts and pulleys and shafting for a few seconds till the belt he had mended was put to wheel. His twenty years of service enabled him to do this work with the deftness of an expert.

#### Jack Shelton, the Engineer

A big, up-to-the-minute, 150-horsepower engine furnishes the power for the bolt and bar department of this great plant. This fine and costly engine with its complications is in care of a Negro, Mr. Jack Shelton. He does every thing for and on this engine but extraordinary repairs and complete rehaults. He is getting out of the engine satisfactory service by rendering satisfactory service to the company, and vindicating the just claim of the Negro of the ability to do skilled labor.

#### The Wages of the Colored Workers of the American Bolt Company

These men are receiving good wages and doing a 9-hour day. Of course, it is work at this plant. The only idlers there are those wheels on the machines and shaftings that assist in gearing the various machines of the shop. And I gathered from this interview with the official of the company herein above mentioned that these men get good wages and some are saving money and buying property, and otherwise making good. There is an air of perfect happiness and contentment about this plant.

#### Bath Houses

In recent years a good bath house with basins and sprays, hot and cold water and dependable warmth from the central heating plant has been serving the men who do the work at this plant.

#### Number of Negro Men

The plant is not now running full blast; but even now 50 or more Colored men are employed. These men are engaged as helpers, runners of machines and at piece and day work. They do not need to go from the American Bolt Company to any point East, North or West for living wages, a chance to save or an opportunity to invest their savings.

#### Conclusion

The readers of the Birmingham Reporter will be reminded that the South is making efforts to satisfy and benefit our group. What we need to do is to give forth the proper response to these bold-type opportunities, by be-

coming less restive and uneasy and less inclined to wander from these broad fields and boundless possibilities, to regions, in many cases, barren of such conditions and chances. Let race men look before they leap into the dark of the Exodus Abyss.

#### HIGH IDEAL SOCIAL CLUB ANNIVERSARY.

The home of Mrs. R. H. Moreland, 809 S. 14th Street, was the scene of the first anniversary of the High Ideal Social Club. The living and reception rooms were decorated in the club colors of Crimson and Green, while the front porch was screened in with white canvass from which point Mrs. Carmichael, gowned in a peach colored satin dress and Mrs. Cora Bonds in white crepe de chine dress dispensed punch. Mrs. M. M. Blanchard in a lovely dress of velvet, gave the welcome address; Miss E. Rutland in grey beaded canton crepe played an instrumental solo; Mrs. L. Elam in blue georgette with cut steel beads gave the club history; Mrs. P. S. Smith in black satin read a paper on friendship; Mr. Williams, Mr. Smith and Mrs. Watts, visitors, responded to the papers. Mrs. L. Phillips, in a dainty voile frock sang a solo, Mrs. Mary Aaron in a sleeveless gown of pink, and Mrs. M. L. Stephens, in lavender charmuse, presented the visitors. Mrs. Phillips in black lace over satin and Miss Gardner in grey crepe de chine presented the fancy work. Mrs. M. Mathews, in french serge, received the guests. Mrs. M. C. Cain, in grey charmuse, Mrs. Hart, in black silk trimmed in pearls, Mrs. R. L. Morton in black canton crepe, Mrs. M. L. Choice, in black lace and Mrs. R. H. Moreland, in black chenille touched with red served the guests. For the neatest work Mrs. Cora Bonds received first prize, set of silver spoons, Mrs. McCain, second prize, silver hat ornament, Mrs. L. Elam, third prize, box of candy. This was the closing meeting for the Summer. Will begin their weekly meetings first Friday in September.

# THE EVOLUTION OF THE MODERN INDUSTRIAL COMMUNITY AS AN ELEMENT IN SOLUTION OF THE RACE PROBLEM

S. R. W. Smith.

#### A STUDY:—AS FAR AS TO SAYERTON A RECAPITULATION

For several months now we have been going the rounds of the various industrial plants and making conditions, of the living conditions, working conditions and other phases of the industrial life of the several communities and making reportorial statements of the findings. It has been a very fascinating work. The farther this thread is unwound the more of interest is found to inhere in it. Watching a development in itself developmental, and the observation is in a measure its own reward. In the series of stories the reader has had the privilege of reading some things about the following companies and their plants—The American Cast Iron Pipe Company, the American Bolt Company, the Stockham Pipe and Fittings Company, the Republic Iron & Steele Company, Tarrant City Pipe Works, Birmingham Machine and Foundry Co., New Castle Mining Corporation and Illinois Central R. R. Shops and C. & C.

#### Authentic Stories.

These stories have been authorized and authentic. We have had the pleasure of meeting many of the men who are responsible for the great enterprises that have busied our pen and tongue to relate the nature of the work done, the men who do the work the complete or incomplete program of betterment, the welcome or unwelcome attitude of the workers toward the comprehensive or incomplete program of the corporation, the more or less uniform trend in the various companies toward a far-reaching welfare schedule, the aggregate endeavors of all the companies having being a variable that ap-

#### Sayerton Pride.

There is a noticeable pride in the Sayerton workman for the plant. This is seen very clearly in the yelling on baseball occasions. The Sayerton workmen's families, like the workmen themselves, take great pride in every thing of Sayerton. They "root for Sayerton." This industrial community life is doing much towards centralizing the thoughts and aims of the Negro people—toward developing the team work idea—and fostering the spirit that will father rational concerted action.

The Sayerton ball team is one of the ranking teams of the City Industrial League. The company is not at all stingy in their provisions for this team. Their suits, outfits are fine. They make a good appearance. They play a fine game. They begin playing and play to the end. This team furnishes non-costly diversion for the workers, their family and friend. And the management at Sayerton is doing the normal thing—providing recreation as well as work. It is really remarkable that all these great concerns are more and more dividing the day into thirds; work, recreation and rest. Since men are what they do in their recreational moments it is a thing quite essential that some guidance or suggestion of guidance be given these character-cropping times.

proaches complete living as a legitimate limit.

#### Some Doors Closed To Publicity

We have not always had a cake-walk to get into touch with the men in authority. Furlongs of red tape have been unspun and sometime with the eventuation "We do not care for publicity." Or it is beyond my power to grant you an excursion through the work. The only one who could do that is Mr. So-and-So and he happens to be just now out of the city." Some of the plants of the district that are really putting over the welfare program in no inconsiderable way take this view. But my opinion is that these companies that are able to spread welfare propaganda should take the initiative in making those points public in which they themselves are long and strong as an indicator for how they may put over a like program—showing the reasonableness from a business point of view of such a course, demonstrating the worth whileness of those expenditures incident to such welfare work and participating in a major measure in the publicity cost. While evils are so bold and aggressive, good should not be so timid and retiring. Not always can a strong company justify itself for withholding from public knowledge its conscious efforts to do good or demonstrable success attained along laudable welfare lines.

#### As Far As to Sayerton.

The last of the plants visited is the Sayerton Mines. Paul, the Prince of Apostles, said in one of his epistles "I have come as far as to you in the preaching of the gospel." So I have come as far as to Sayerton in this social gospel of welfare work. We are to take a look at another of the mining camps of the Birmingham district.

#### Housing Conditions

Here the housing program has not been pushed to the same approach to perfection that some others have; but there is a nucleus for the evolution of the more complete housing scheme. Workmen have quarters as in most cases. But many of them are compelled to go good distances to and from their work. We feel that a greater degree of good could be done with a uniform assemblage of workers.



# Welfare Work for Housing Conditions.

## THE EVOLUTION OF THE MODERN INDUSTRIAL COMMUNITY AS AN ELEMENT IN SOLUTION OF THE RACE PROBLEM

In last week's contribution attention was called to this subject of the modern industrial community as evolved by and in the American Cast Iron Pipe Company. It was shown that

S. R. W. Smith. there had been a gradual evolution rather than a precipitate revolution; that it did not begin full grown but had its meager beginnings, as a whole and in all its parts, that great impetus was given to the complex movement when it was lodged in the hands of the Y. M. C. A. and a beginning was made of enumerating the several phases of this work of establishing the modern industrial community.

### Purpose of Present Writing

The purpose of this present writing will be to complete the enumeration of the manifold phases of the work. State the basic principle responsible for the prevailing spirit of the plant as well as to show the unfoldment of the companies ideals to be a variable that approaches complete living as a legitimate limit.

### Housing in the Acipico Community

The next in order of the many phases of the work is the housing question at Acipico. Too much cannot be said of the housing here. There are two communities, colored and white; two churches, white and colored; four schools, two white and two colored. As is true of the other phases of the community life so is it of the housing. The houses that are are not the houses that were. The antiquated quarter has given place to the modern and model community. The unbeautiful—the unsanitary—the uninviting shot-gun house is well nigh

seen on more. It has been replaced by the cottage—well lighted, fitted up with complete bath rooms,—with gas incandescent hot water tanks,—with incandescent lights—with sewerage and water from the regular city mains—The interesting lesson "The Reign of Solomon" was well discussed. His character and qualities were compared with that of the former kings. Both sermons for the day were delivered by the pastor, Rev. J. B. Carity. This ought not to be. It may better they stand back on account of the small plumbing cost necessary to connecting up the tanks. These tanks have been placed in these dwellings not as a luxury, but as a necessity. Every home that is provided with this convenience should connect up and learn the added touch of comfort in its use. It is needed by the members of the workers family who may not have access to "Y" bath-houses. Cleanliness of person and premises demands that these tanks be used. Dr. Simmons used to say, "Keep clear of dirt, debt and the devil." The hot water in the home puts the household on the road to the first of these requisites, while the thrift program of the company and the religious training offered will furnish the other two.

These houses are three, four and five room houses and undergo frequent renovation, alternating between interior and exterior, repairs, decoration and so forth. This winter season has witnessed a thorough decoration of the cottages of both white and colored communities. It can be truthfully said that if the American Cast Iron Pipe Company has not excelled in housing facilities for its workers it has at least kept pace with the most progressive companies in showing the economy of excellence in housing.

### Permanency of Homes

Already many of the cottages in the white community have been sold on easy terms to the white employees and plans are being perfected for selling the houses in West Acipico to colored workers.

**The Acipico Mutual Benefit Association**  
This association is just a further

business, he announces that his will do a general business including all job work of whatsoever nature. The plant is centrally located and a new addition to the many business of our community.

### PAYNE CHAPEL NOTES.

(By Mrs. Efrine Walker.)

Despite the threatening weather last Sunday, the attendance at the service was good. The Sunday School opened promptly at 9:30 o'clock, with Supt. B. P. Durham at his post of duty. The interesting lesson "The Reign of Solomon" was well discussed. His character and qualities were compared with that of the former kings.

Both sermons for the day were delivered by the pastor, Rev. J. B. Carity. His text for the eleven o'clock service was selected from Luke 19:10 "For the Son of Man is come to seek and to save that which is lost." He explained well the mission of Christ.

In explaining the lost condition of man, he enlarged upon "Man living in a state of unbelief." In this he compared man with a corked barrel that floats on the waters, giving off nothing, but man simply drifting on the sea of time.

Since Christ's mission to the world (as his text stated) was to seek and to save man, he gave to his listeners Christ's methods in saving him,

1st. In that He ate no idle bread. 2nd. In that He associated sinners for the purpose of elevation. 3rd. Bringing to man the "life of forgiveness." 4th. The "life of love." 5th. The "life of meekness." 6th. The "life of thankfulness." 7th. The "life of usefulness." 8th. The "life of sympathy." 9th. The "life of patience." 10th. The "life of activity." 11th. The "life of firmness in temptation," etc. The sermon was wonderful and inspiring.

At the evening service he spoke from the subject of "Prayer," properly enlarging upon public, private, personal and ejaculating prayer.

Those who missed the morning service were lavishly fed from this subject.

The Allen Christian Endeavor League met at 6:00 o'clock and enjoyed a lively discussion.

The choir is preparing a musical to be rendered on Easter Sunday. The Seven Last Words of Christ were thrown around the men who work at Acipico. It provides a weekly sick benefit, accident indemnity

and several benefits upon the death of a worker or member of his family. This, like all organizations of its kind, is a device for equalizing the burdens of the community, of lightening by dividing its sorrows. By wise precautionary measures this association is conducted so as not to encourage idleness and yet to protect its members. Every employee of the company is a

member. Every member of his family is protected.

## THE EVOLUTION OF THE MODERN INDUSTRIAL COMMUNITY AS AN ELEMENT IN SOLUTION OF THE RACE PROBLEM

The Birmingham Machine and Foundry Company—A Study.

(By S. R. W. Smith.)

### Location of

Plant — As you ride out Tenth avenue on either the Gate City or Boyles-Ingle-nook car and approach the intersection of 41st St. with this avenue there is to be seen a singular sign in raised gold

letters on a black background. This sign reads: **The Birmingham Machine and Foundry Company.** This sign has never been forgotten for me in the past what it will ever connote in the future. Heretofore it has been merely a landmark—a directrix. Hereafter it will be a trademark—a sign of industrial and business opportunity—a sign of some of the fundamental operations in the solution of the race problem.

**Impression As Gained from the Interviews with Officials of the Company**

On presenting the letter of introduction, setting forth the purpose of our department and the nature of our work, to Mr. Morrow of the Big Office, he very readily consented to answer any questions concerning Negro employees of the firm that I might ask—directed me to where I could ob-

tain a pass into the works and furnished me a guide to chamber my rambles lest I wander. "Show Smith the courtesies of the plant," said he to whom I was directed for a pass.

### Number of Negro Workers Employed.

I was informed that about 125 colored men contribute their quota of work in this remarkable assemblage of machinery and other work devices. But the colored men are more or less a floating element. Long-time men are rare. It should be said in this connection that this is not due to any fault of the company's. The Birmingham Machine and Foundry Company, like many others just let loose from the grip of war time conditions, has suffered a leaning from the regular line of products. New and lighter products have become a part of the program. Soil pipe is an after thought with them. Here is to be seen the versatility of southern brain and the resourcefulness of the captains of industry and finance in this our fair section, and just as truly, their determination to put over a program of permanent and growing blessing in this chosen work of furnishing jobs to the bread winners of the land. They have somewhat in common with Tennyson's brook: "Men may come and men may go but they go on forever."

### The Old Line of Products and their Market.

The old line of products was sugar machinery, cotton compresses and general contracts for machine products. The old market was Cuba, Porto Rica and all the Southern American parts. And while mentioning old things in

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connection with this plant permit me to mention the old shipping clerk, a Negro known as Edgar Jones, who claims to have been marking clerk for 25 years and an employe of the company for 30 years, from the time it was known as the firm of Bolling and White. He was with it in the reorganization when the name was changed to that of the Birmingham Machine and Foundry Company. He knows all about everything in the plant—he is an encyclopedia of general information and is used as such. He is blue print specialist and vender of lunches. He is reaping rich rewards in more than one way for faithful and efficient services. Ed. Jones is but an example of what may be done by any race man who will make himself a worth while adjunct to some great and thriving business. The colored employes of the Birmingham Machine and Foundry Co. would do well to settle down—become permanent and not transient. In the language of Booker T. Washington the Wizard of Tuskegee, the late hero of rational and practical industrialism: "Let down your bucket where you are."

#### Wages and Work Conditions.

The wages paid for work are good. Much of the work is piece work and a man can get out of it what he is willing and able to put into it. The 125 Negro employes do the work of foundry helpers, machine shop helpers, core carriers, cupola tenders, stock men and chippers. It is skilled labor all. But the Negro workers give satisfaction. They are satisfied and happy. Work conditions are good.

The men are furnished a bath house—though this bath house is not as commodious as it could well afford to be. No welfare work is attempted—they furnish no laborer's quarters or community. But it must be said to the credit of the Birmingham Machine and Foundry Co. they do not cast off disabled workers. There is a system in vogue through which their needs are supplied. The Birmingham Machine and Foundry Company is contributing its part of the essential elements in the solution of the problem of race. Give a man a chance to work for fair wages, under tolerable working conditions, and reason to believe that he is regarded as something more than mere brute force, and you give that man a lifting power within himself—a means of elevation as a unit in the community and create him a mighty factor in the solution of the race problem. Birmingham in particular and the South in

general are proud of such an array of industrial heroes who are against odds not always complained of, leading the van in the battle for betterment, "casting their bread upon the waters that it may return unto them after many days."

## EVOLUTION OF MODERN COMMUNITY OF ACIPCO IN ITS RELATION TO RACE PROBLEM AS HANDLED BY COMPANY

One of the inevitable by products of a great industrial plant is either a made or a marred man. The great American Cast Iron Pipe Company has fully realized this stupendous fact, and

have addressed themselves to the task so as not to be guilty at least, of turning out on society the deleterious by-product of a marred manhood. A wise genius has guided their hearts and efforts in the evolution of the social system as it now stands. praise-worthy far mindedness was in evidence all the way. It has been a study. But this corporation management have as John Ruskin directs, sat down before an agglomeration of facts, like little children, and learned in the hard school of experience, step after step, the obvious thing to do in the evolution of this present social status. And be you assured the conditions that were at first not the conditions that are. There has not been a revolution; no, not that. It has been the working of the yeast of the golden rule in the Acipco social and industrial life.

#### Meager Beginnings.

Like all great movements, like all successes that became noteworthy, this great system had its day of small things, its era of meager beginnings. It has required much pains, much thought and a strict adherence to the truth that "We be brothers" to bring about the kaleidoscopic changes that have taken place in developing this model community. These changes have had a wide range—all the way from

subordination of the social to the industrial life to the coordination of the social life with the industrial life. The real social system's beginning dates back to a mere suggestion on the part of some one that the company build a bath house. But, at Acipco, suggestions that are worthy do not die in the pigeon-hole; they are not "sicklied o'er with the pallid cast of thought." Tal suggestions are quickly grafted on the life of plant. At Acipco worthwhile suggestions live and move and have a being. For instance: some one suggested that the present mind-pit, being nigh exhaustion, must soon be abandoned and hence let us move several houses in the old addition and so make room for mud-supply, which is urgently needed to make cores in the pipe shop. The living suggestion took from immediately and the house-moving company strapped up those houses and moved them chimney and all and moved the families in the houses several hundred yards away. Now the water and sewerage are being connected. No task seems to daunt the daring genius of Acipco. Just so the modern bath house equipped with shower and basin baths, individual steel lockers, with separate bath rooms for white and colored workers, sprang into existence. Cleaning up one room in the mansion is not general house cleaning; but it starts the thing. The bath house was constructed in 1912.

When a working man cleans up, if he has not been "lying down" on the job, he wants to eat. A clean man wants a clean meal. What is true of an individual workman is true of a collection of workers. A good hot meal makes them feel like life is worth living. Logically then came the restaurant or to use a more modern term, the cafeteria. The Y. M. C. A. Put In the Saddle. The Industrial Department of the

Y. M. C. A. prayed the management to turn over this service program to them. A new three-story building was erected and was formally dedicated and turned over to the Y. M. C. A. The first floor of this building, according to the plan is used for a cafe, the second floor is a club room for the colored workers, and the third a dormitory and educational room for them. The clean bath is not the only clean thing at Acipco. The first and second floors are tiling and cement, and to these the gospel of soap and water are frequently and freely applied. The third floor is dormitory floor—hard wood well oiled. There are 60 beds there. These dormitory quarters are copiously lighted, thoroughly ventilated and well kept. The men themselves cleaned in the bat house on the second floor repair to the third floor where they stretch their tired limbs out on a clean bed between clean sheets, with the guarantee that they will not be disturbed by they bugs or mosquitoes. For this clean and sanitary domicile there is only the nominal charge of a nickel a night. Can you beat it? White and colored secretaries are employed to put over the Y. M. C. A. program of religious and educational activities. The school which is housed on the third floor of this building is of an unusual sort in that it is open 24 hours a day. Weekly moving pictures, censored by qualified persons, are furnished to both white and colored. Reading rooms, musical instruments, parlor games and athletic sports constitute the recreational program. A great source of uplift is the lecture course. Many of the men who preach and lecture to the men make the fore day watch. These lectures cover the entire field of social, economic, industrial, religious and civic life.

#### Medical Service.

The development above looked after the man in healthy condition. But men do not stay well. They sicken. They meet with accidents. They even die. The company doctor had always looked after the workman who met with accident in the course of his work. But the aggressive spirit of the management was not the one to limit their own possibilities by clinging to worn out ideals or fossil ideas. The "company doctor" gave way to the new regime—a well directed, well equipped, unbiased medical service department, whose benefits are given not only to the worker himself but to his family as well. The benign

spirit of Acipco goes out to all the workmen, white and colored, and those connected with them by the ties of love and affection and by the bonds of consanguinity.

#### The Dental Department.

The Dental Department is doing a great work also. As has been learned by recent research, many diseases that undermine the health and rob man of his physical fitness have their origin in the danger line between the teeth and the gums. Competent dental surgery is used in this department or rather this branch of the medical service department, for both the workmen and those dependent upon him. So the system goes on growing in its effects to alleviate human suffering and to keep the men who make the pipe in the mammoth shops of the American Cast Iron Pipe Company in the fittest condition and freest from domestic infelicity.

#### The Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat Branch.

These juxtaposed organs in the human cranium and in the upper cervical region naturally group themselves together, and what with the numerous ills incident to these organs the directors of the medical service department did not feel that its service would be complete without this branch. This branch is doing a big amount of good in arresting and correcting conditions that are untoward in this group of organs that sympathize with each other in the healthy as well as the pathological condition.

#### The New Medical Dispensary Is Unique and Complete.

There is a twin-entrance, one door leading to the colored and the other to the white reception room. This expression, "twin entrance" is used advisedly. These reception rooms communicate by convenient windows with the Infirmative Department. Then next to these on the same side of the hall are physicians' offices and consultation rooms, not elaborately but adequately furnished. At one end of the building is the dental department and at the other there is one of the most beautiful and common-sense operating rooms I ever saw. Dressing rooms, dietary kitchen, X-Ray room with an accompanying development room for developing X-ray pictures of fractures, tumors and foreign bodies whose presence in the body disturb the balance in the physiological economy are the other departments. Acipco's New Main Product and By-Product.

The reader can see that in the



## Welfare Work for Housing Conditions.

honest money and the pipe in the Acipco plant in the largest possible way, there has been going on a notable interchange of objectives so that now the main product is satisfied men with happy families, both employer and employee while pipe is merely the monetary by-product. The company has never had a strike—never a complete shut down.

# THE EVOLUTION OF THE MODERN INDUSTRIAL COMMUNITY AS AN ELEMENT IN SOLUTION OF THE RACE PROBLEM

The Illinois Central R. R. Shop—A Study: A Triangle of R. R. Shops.

(By S. R. W. Smith)

A certain triangular area of the city of Birmingham seems to be the home of Railroad Shops. On the longest side of this triangle there is the Southern Shop the old and and new additions—on another side there is the Frisco R. R. Shop, while on the third side there is the Illinois Central R. R. Shop (which houses the Central of Georgia R. R. Shop also.)

### A Cordial Welcome.

I was impressed with how red tape loses its redness in some places and in some cases. If the place is the I. C. Shop, the case an interview with Mr. King, the affable Superintendent of this shop (who, by the way, opened up this shop here some fourteen years ago) the tape is not red. Said he to me "I'd be mighty glad for you to write a news story on our shop and our men. I'll send you to Will Washington, who has been here as long as the shop has been here. He can show you the things you want to know." "What a difference in men," I said to myself. Some men would

## Alabama

of it. I next grasped the hand of Mr. Andrew Riddle, 9 years and 1 week old in the service. He is a mechanic. Mr. Marvin Crawford, mechanics' helper, 2 years old in I. C. employ, was the next man whom I met. A six-year man, John Howard, proudly informed me that he had played the role of mechanics' helper, box and truck packer. Mr. Monroe Pennick bears the shop cognomen of mechanics' handy-man. When I asced the meaning of this odd term, I was informed that the mechanic and the mechanics' helper has this as the go-between. He is not a mechanic quite, but above the mechanic's helper. Mr. Ed Martin, 14-year man, is the efficient hostler for the shop. He is an essential unit in the work. Young Mr. Carl Mayes has seen 7 years in I. C. service. He spent 5 years in the company's shop in Jackson, Tenn., and was transferred to this shop. His role been various, viz: laborer, machinist, fireman, mechanics' helper. He owns his home. Mr. Will Tremble is 2 years old in the service, and is giving satisfaction as helper and handy man. Mr. Solomon Findey, 2-year man, is laborer, packer-helper. Mr. E. J. Holmes, 14-year man, Round-house car cleaner, mechanics helper, engine cleaner. Holmes owns his home also. Mr. Ben Baldwin has been with the company only 3 months, and is now serving as cab cleaner.

One very interesting gentleman whom I met was Mr. Robert Bailey. He is 52 years old, but a lively chap withal. However, he handles more air than "hot air." He is an all-round car repairer—even repairing the air brakes and doing all the high class work of the first class car repairer. His real estate holding may be conservatively estimated at \$3,000. He carries \$4,000 worth of Metropolitan Life Insurance and is a stockholder

### Protection of Workmen.

By paying through the office the small sum of 35 cents all the men are insured and there is thereby vouchsafed unto each of them medical, hospital and burial benefits.

### Equitable Wage Basis.

The Illinois Central Shop has a most just wage system. There is no dual wage system in that shop—no white and black standard of pay. Robert Bailey above mentioned car repairer, says that one of the officials of the company said on one occasion (and this official is high up in authority) "A hundred pounds of steam raised by a black fireman is the equal in every way to a hundred pounds of steam raised by any other kind of fireman." It does the same amount of work for the company and is worth

the same pay and shall get the same pay." I feel that this liberal attitude of the great Illinois Central R. R. Co. towards its colored employes ought to receive more than passing consideration—that when possible, preference ought to be given to this liberal line when we are deciding upon routes to the great national bodies whether church or fraternal societies.

### Satisfied Workers?

Well I guess they are. Peace and harmony prevails in the shop. It is the halcyon lull after terrific labor storm. But the calm exists. If you do not believe me walk into the Illinois Central R. R. Shop and consult Jerry Baldwin, 14-year car truck packer, Clarence Jones, 5-year man all told and home owner, or B. Bolling, 2-year car repairer drugging with true mechanics skill trucks and draw-heads and truss rods, and owning farm lands in Hale county and house and lot in Jefferson; ask William Key, car repairer helper. He is the key to the situation, or ask Daniel Williams, 2-year man, car repairer helper, who owns real estate in Bullock county. They will tell you that all these men are satisfied as employes of the I. C. R. R. Shop.

You may read a subsequent article from Railroad Shopdom.

# THE EVOLUTION OF THE MODERN INDUSTRIAL COMMUNITY AS AN ELEMENT IN SOLUTION OF THE RACE PROBLEM

Stockham Pipe and Fittings Company's Plant Studied.

### Human Bees in Glass Hives.

By S. R. W. Smith

In my brief r a m b l e through the Stockham's Pipe and Fittings Plant, I was impressed with the orderliness observed, first in the arrangement of the physical make-up of the plant, second in the workmen on their jobs. There is somewhat of a liberal education in beholding things scientifically arranged or

artistically performed. The physical make-up of this plant is a pretty close approach to the ideal. Its walkways and drive-ways are laid off with newtonian precision—its lights are so planned as to relieve every workman of eye-strain and other disadvantages that come from bad light or lights unscientifically related. The multitudinous passages at first glance seem a veritable labyrinth, but upon a more close inspection the maze loses its mystery and the men, instead of being a bunch of promiscuous actors, appear as they really are a well organized and closely supervised band of effectual workers. It is a house of glass covering acres and the industrious dwellers therein are not habituated to throwing stones. It is remarkable to note how very few of the thousands of window lights are broken, which shows to what degree the destruction in the character of the workmen has been removed under the tutelage of the Stockham Company by the constructive. And it might be said in this connection that man's course in this world is a case of the destructive versus the constructive; and civilization succeeds in proportion as the former is replaced by the latter. This is just as true of insti-

tutions and individuals. They succeed when the destructive is either eradicated or reduced to a practically harmless minimum. They fail when the same element is allowed to assume the proportion of a dangerous maximum. This great glass-house with unbroken window lights declares that the destructive is being exterminated and the construction is being cultivated in the Stockham plant.

### Negro Moulders in Action.

When one first looks upon this collection of busy workmen they seem to be working "like mad." But upon more calm examination of the myriad movements through which they go, the inevitable conclusion settles on one that there is "method in their madness." I saw scores of Negro moulders in action with their armour on. It was a thing of beauty. I did not know that there were Negro moulders there until it was told me by one of the men in authority. And he said to me "I want you to see these



colored moulders." They did not seem to be tenderfoots on the path of moulten iron. They had that poise and precision and speed that one sees any where when looking on skilled moulders at work. Here, said I, is a proof that cannot be gainsaid, a demonstration that cannot be denied. When I asked whether these men were making good, I was told that they would not be retained on the job if their services were not satisfactory and profitable. It was also stated to me that these men will give an honest day's work. The dependability on the part of the men to put in 100 per cent day's work when on the job is growing. The dead that is giving place to the right real red-blooded full-valued workman. This industrial community is answering in a tangible, practical and irrefutable way some of the stock questions that have been asked concerning the black man as a skilled worker.

#### **Wages Compare Favorable With Wages Elsewhere.**

Because the work of the men is so eminently satisfactory and because they fit so well in the industrial program here, the company thinks it not robbery to offer them living wages for the work they do. And these wages compare favorably with wages for like work everywhere. Many desire work at this plant. The line of job-seekers at the gates shows this. The tenure of service of the workmen shows this. Many of the men have started on the ground floor and have stuck to the work year after year till there is a large number of them who justly claim a praiseworthy seniority. The old claim that good wages spoil Negro workers is failing of verification here at least.

#### **Piece Work A Feature.**

One feature of the work is that much of it is piece-work. The man's wages depends very largely on the number of pieces turned out. When ones on behavior on the job, his value as a worker and the amount of his earnings is left to him there is brought to bear upon him a high test of efficiency, and there is lent to him a powerful motive to put forth his best efforts. Piece-work is succeeding at the Stockham plant. Now, when it is remembered that most of the workers here are colored men, it is another way of saying that Negroes respond to the stimulus offered ambitious men in a piece-work scheme. The response to stimulus theory of education is perhaps the latest theory, and this theory can be easily extended so as to take in industrial development as a source of stimuli

and ones responses to these stimuli as expressed in economic, industrial, and social progress, his industrial education.

#### **The Bath House.**

The bath house is a way of approach to another question concerning the Negro. Will the colored men use the bath house? Not all of the Stockham workers wash up in the bath house but the number is increasing. They have the regulation steel lockers—the hot and cold shower bath and what goes to make a bath house that will enable the workmen to leave their "muckers" on the job and wear their street clothes back and forth each day. And when we realize that we owe certain considerations to the people who must use the same public carriers with us and we must come into touch and even into, contact with them, it goes without the saying that the bath house of the industrial community enters as a large element in the solution of the race problem. Certain simple rules of bathing should be universally taught in these baths—viz, the duration of hot bath—about 3 minutes—the cold bath after the hot as a tonic spray of about a half minute's duration and the thorough drying of the body afterward. These three rules will brighten the value of the bath house and add to the general health of the bathers and raise the average expectation of the lives of the army engaged in the industries of the world.

#### **Wonderful Night School.**

One of the strong points at Stockham in the large night school. These captains of industry realize that illiteracy is a handicap. Its result is retardation of the work in which the worker is engaged and of the worker. General signs and announcements mean nothing to men who cannot read. They must be told everything. This takes up time that might be well spent otherwise and renders them unwarned in the face of red-lettered words of warning. There is a larger per cent of accidents and a corresponding larger per cent of liabilities due to accidents, casualties and the drafting of green men to fill in the thinned ranks of unwarned illiterates. There is therefore an element of self-preservation on the part of the company as regards the night school. But they are not actuated solely by considerations of self; they have at heart the betterment of their workers, the enlightenment of those who furnish the man-power of the great Stockham plant. Two professors are employed by the company to do the teaching

and the company also furnishes the books that are used by the students. The enrollment is about 125 and the attendance ranges from 50 to 100. This enrollment shows that the workmen welcome the opportunity that is afforded them and this attendance shows that a considerable number are being helped by the night school. Prof. Mabry and Prof. Dobbins do the teaching, assisted by Mr. John Mitchel who is employed in the colored wing of the Y. M. C. A. there. Best jobs are awarded night school men.

#### **Just One More Article.**

The next will be the concluding contribution the Stockham plant. It will deal with the operators and operation of the tapping and facing machines. The colored women who work in Stockham plant. The shipping department. The Cooper department and some general observations coupled with a capitulatory paragraph, showing how these industrial centers are giving much aid in solving the race problem, not omitting an expression of our profound appreciation of the part the managements of these concerns are playing in this essential drama of human uplift, and social service.



Labor—1924.

Welfare Work for Housing Conditions.

# THE EVOLUTION OF THE MODERN INDUSTRIAL COMMUNITY AS AN ELEMENT IN SOLUTION OF THE RACE PROBLEM

New Castle Mining Settlement—A Study.

By S. R. W. Smith

My trip to New Castle was a very worthwhile trip and I learned some worthwhile facts about what is being done by the New Castle Coal Company for the men who do the work. I

S. R. W. Smith

was very courteously received and Mr. McDermott took delight either in giving me the information sought or giving me such a lead that I could readily get it from others. In the course of the interview he said: "Everybody seems to be perfectly satisfied. This last year we lost the fewest men on account of the exodus."

## The Work Schedule.

The work schedule is a 5-day-in-the-week schedule. Wages are good. Men are happy. Their families satisfied. There are about 300 Negro workers in these mines. They are skilled miners. Men who know how to shoot for effects, who get results. And they are making money. They are not "sinking shafts for silver mines in the mountains of the moon." They are merely blasting black diamonds from the rock ribs of the mountains of Alabama. But these black sons of toil are doing an important part of the world's work.

## Housing Conditions.

Most of these men live right in camp. The houses range from 2 to 5-room houses. The size of the house is determined by the size of the family or more after by the number of

years of service and the kind of workers. At New Castle as in the world in general merit wins. Mr. Lawrence said that the houses had run down somewhat but he was rebuilding and repainting as fast as he could.

There is ample space for every worker to have a garden. But I observed that only a few of these men cultivate a garden. Those who live farther away from the wash house have patch privileges. They themselves fence in some land and raise corn and beans and other things to subsist upon. I noticed some little stands. These were built by the company and turned over to such men as desire to sell lunches or soft drinks. This is encouraging.

## School House

The company has built a nice four-teacher school with a little addition for domestic science. The principal of this school is Prof J. B. Carter, and Mr. Laurence said Carter is one of the best men in the world. I looked in upon the school and talked to the children. The school is orderly and the pupils mannerly. The teachers, some of whom had been pupils of mine in the past, have the co-operative spirit and are striving hard to put over a genuine educational program.

The New Castle Co. support the domestic science department outright, paying the teacher and supplying other needs of the department. They supplement the salaries of all the teachers also.

When a certain workman told me of this fact he said: "And the good part about it is there is no 'cut' at the office."

## Churches.

There are three churches, two Baptist and one Methodist. These were all built by the company. They are all full time churches and largely attended. The company does not try as some other companies do to make a non-denominational church housing several religious denominations under one roof. Such an arrangement may save building expenses, but it loses

Alabama.

everything else, and the things lost are far more valuable than the item of gain.

## Bath House

The New Castle Company has just erected a very unique bath house. There are lockers, but these lockers are not the old style steel-cage locker. The sprays—hot and cold water—are arranged across the middle of the bath room. There are two other departments, one at one end and one at the other. One of these contains the locker baskets for street clothing and the other the locker baskets for the work clothes or muckers. It is all told the cleanest and most perfectly sanitary bath house I have seen. One of the Colored workers said: "There are two things the men ought to surely appreciate and they are this bath house and the 50c a month hospital fee." This bath house is a bath house. It is strictly modern, scientific, perfect. And the men are using it and are happy to have it.

## Two Hundred Subscriptions to the Birmingham Reporter

Two hundred Birmingham Reporters go to the New Castle Camp every week. These papers are paid for by the New Castle Company and distributed free of cost to the men through

the school as a distributing center. Professor Carter says that the men really read these newspapers. They inquire for them if they are at all late letting to them. This shows that the company is really wide awake, that men want information and go after it.

I am all the more convinced that people in general do not know how much is being done by the South. I captains of industry to satisfy and benefit the Negro, to meet fierce labor competition and stabilize the business prosperity of the South. They are housing their families; building their school houses; building their church houses; indemnifying them against sickness, accident and death; furnishing every means of encouragement and enlightenment, and reducing to a minimum the friction of race. In short, the modern industrial community is working miracles in solving the problem, and when a final analysis shall be made it will be seen that New Castle with its magnanimous Carr McCormick and McDermott will be reckoned as potent factors in the solution. May their tribe increase!

# THE EVOLUTION OF THE MODERN INDUSTRIAL COMMUNITY AS AN ELEMENT IN SOLUTION OF THE RACE PROBLEM

Tarrant City Pipe Works—A Study

By S. R. W. Smith

As a newspaper reporter I must make mention of the courteous treatment accorded me by the men whom I have had the good fortune of meeting at these industrial plants. They are

Mr. Day, the Tarrant City Pipe Works, some of the 12:30. I had not time to talk. But it did not affect the situation. I am

View.

The general appearance of this plant is one of orderliness, cleanliness and neatness. The lawns are grassed and well groomed, the fences are at once decorative and protective, the buildings brick structures well planned and commodious. An out-reaching aspect is seen in the additional buildings in course of construction. This corporation was just organized in 1912, beginning operation in 1914. But it is a substantial thing "Here to stay," seems written on the entire plant.

## Negro Labor Indispensable In South's Industries.

About 650 men are employed at Tarrant City. Approximately 70 per cent of these men are colored. The two races work harmoniously together and work out a profitable program for all concerned—employer and employe and the dependents of the

workers for whom by an inexorable fate they must be bread winners.

## Good Wages.

It is the purpose of the management at Tarrant City to carry out such a schedule that will reap the richest rewards possible. The wage is a living wage, and conditions are living conditions.

## Care of the Men. Housing.

Body, soul and mind come in for their share in the housing scheme. About 75 neat, well built houses at a reasonable rental cost, have been provided for the colored workers. They are placed according to a definite landscape plan, are furnished with water from Birmingham city mains. The water plug in the midst of these houses offers protection in case of fire. The church and school at present are housed under one roof. The company pays part of the salaries of two teachers. The official of the company told me that what the city offered as salary was rather small. So they supplement it? They do not make any part in paying the preacher of the community church. We hope that the time will soon come when a separate school building can be had for the children, especially the boys who are to be the future pipe makers at Tarrant City.

## Satisfied Workers.

The writer was impressed with the happiness of the workers. In answer to the question, "Why are these men so seemingly happy?" I was told by one of the old workers who laid his black brawn in the very foundation of the plant, "This is the best company in the world to work for. They do you so many favors." "But," said he, "there are some here who cannot get company favors. See, you have to be the right kind of man." This new note was welcome. The right kind of manhood ought to be encouraged, and this wise discretion in favor of the better brand of manhood means much in its relation to the problems of our racial group. The approval by the aristocracy of the better traits of character in the citizens of democracy is a real death blow to kakistocracy.

## Insurance and Health of the Tarrant City Workers.

There is a medical dispensary that



serves the workmen in case of sickness or accident. The health of the workers is amply safeguarded. But the company does not stop there. I was officially informed that every worker is insured—that the company pays the premiums on these policies. When one has been a member three months he is insured for \$500.00. The face value of this policy increases \$100.00 a year till it reaches a maximum of \$1000.00. Sick benefits are also provided, reaching half time pay covering period of total disability.

#### Recreational Features Not Neglected.

The baseball team of Tarrant City is in the City Industrial league. The suits and other parts of the baseball outfit are furnished by the company. An innocent and exhilarating recreation is an essential part of a normal life's program. Men are what they are in their hours of leisure, for then

alone do they have complete self-direction.

#### Tarrant City Has Bath House.

A very neat, clean and commodious bath house with steel lockers ventilated through the means of perforated doors, rat-proof by construction is to be found here. The men appreciate and enjoy it. One said to me: "You see we don't leave the works in our muckers. We dress up and go through the streets looking respectable." This is a pardonable pride.

#### The Christian Mile.

In the memorable sermon on the Mount Jesus said: "Whosoever shall compel thee to go a mile, go with him twain," Matt. 5:41. In the conception of the Christ the first mile is the mile of the law—the mile of duty, the mile of compulsion, but the second mile is the mile of the gospel the mile of merit and character, the mile of free moral agency. The white man of means and power is compelled by the mere presence of the black man to give him work. But he is giving him more than bare work. He is going the Christian mile—the mile of grace and character. A wonderful twin development is going on in these modern industrial plants.

#### Conclusion:

I have sought to cover this plant in one article which is crowding much in little space. Any omission of any important feature is due to this fact alone.

# THE EVOLUTION OF THE NEW INDUSTRIAL COMMUNITY A POTENT FACTOR IN SOLVING THE NEGRO PROBLEM

By S. R. W. Smith.

One of the modern miracles is the change in working conditions among the colored people of the South. The man fifty years old, who has lived in the Southland since his childhood, has looked on a miraculous evolution in the industrial fabric of the South. The old idea that the south could make any substantial progress according to any program that failed to give due consideration to the betterment of the colored man, has been exploded. It is gratifying to note how this section of America is rising to its opportunity in facing this fundamental truth and addressing itself to remedying the evils heretofore inherent in the industrial system.

#### The Uncharted Way.

The way was uncharted and therefore it had to be threaded with caution, patience, study and with a flexible attitude of mind. No precedents had been set to guide those attempting it and so one device and another were used in the honest effort on the part of many to so adjust matters as to reach the general resultant of betterment. Different, even sharply contrasted personalities, methods and ideals have contributed to the tortuous windings of this unblazed way. For a long time the great industrial system of the south was thought of as an aggregation of more or less independent units and not an unbroken continuity. Coercion, which loomed large in the beginning, is now giving way to co-operation; but the course has been a veritable labyrinth.

#### Farm Labor Problem.

The Negro farm laborers have been gravitating at a rapid rate in two definite directions, not without cause. In the cities of the South—the great industrial centers, he has found a growing attractions. In the northern industrial centers he found or seemed to find the potent lure of liberty, real or imaginary, and of labor more remunerative in some respects than either on the farms of the south or in the cities of that section. These two have constituted a very strong pull on the Negro farm labor supply.

#### The Reaction.

This heavy drain on the supply of

Negro labor in the south has had a certain and definite effect. Extraordinary measures have been resorted to just as when a famine of some other sort threatens the decimation of the population of a country. Egypt met threatened famine through the agrarian laws and grain measures enacted by Joseph, the spirit-filled stranger within their gates. Revolution in the entire industry of farming in the south, in so far as it concerned the Negro set in. Farm wages, farm contracts, farm living conditions, and a general toning up of rustic environment have followed as a result of this revolution. There has been a getting closer together of landlord and tenant, which has ranged all the way from apathy to sympathy from a paralyzing lack of understanding to a study of conditions with a view of getting such an understanding as is essential to the well-being both of the employer and employee. "Hands" are no longer regarded as members of the industrial body that may be severed or even injured without hurting the whole body. The anesthesia of prejudice is being counteracted in the industrial body of the south by the more or less widespread administration of the golden rule as a tonic. The Exodus a Crystallizer of Sentiment.

While it is true that the exodus to the north has grown to be, in many cases, a mere "fad," yet in a reflex way it has played a great part in crystallizing sentiment and precipitating remedial action. Increased wages on the farm and in the factory, in the mines and industrial plants; lessening of the number of working hours the day; representation in the control of the plants; participation in the common-stock earnings of many of the big industrial corporations of the south; health and sanitation provision; improved living conditions, are some of the results of this new sane note of sympathy and constructiveness that is beginning to pervade the south.

#### Series of Contributions.

Since Jefferson County is the state's richest and biggest industrial centre we purpose to make a study of those conditions and remedies which are the landmarks in the industrial evolution now under way. We shall

study the various plants first, individually, showing how each grasped and handled its own situation; then comparatively, showing the degree of success attained by each one in relation to others. The golden thread that shall run through them all will be the tendency of all to establish the Modern Industrial Community instead the erstwhile contested, disease-breeding quarters, and it must reach that specific objection for the company or corporation to get either the maximum service from their workers or the maximum profits from their products. We shall endeavor to discuss these phases of the general subject in connection with each of these great business concerns fairly, frankly, freely that all concerned may benefit from these articles.

#### The First Listed.

The next of these articles will be in regard to some fundamental things

in the development of the modern community of the American Cast Iron Pipe Company, source of its phenomenal success and its fabulous wealth. There will be three articles on this corporation's part in Alabama's industrial scheme.



Labor—1924

## Welfare Work for Housing Conditions.

# BETTER HOUSING OF NEGROES IS URGED

Will Tend To Hold Labor Here,  
Speakers Tell Realty  
Board.

Better housing facilities for negroes tends to hold the labor to this district, makes better labor and in the long run brings better returns to owners and realtors, according to statements made to the Birmingham Real Estate Board and by realtors and owners of property.

Negro housing was the theme at the weekly luncheon-meeting of the board, Thursday afternoon, at the municipal market, the principal speaker being C. D. Barr, of the American Cast Iron Pipe Company, with short talks by E. M. Elliott, Birmingham property owner, and others. Mr. Barr and Mr. Elliott were asked many questions at the conclusion of their statements as to the results of the better houses for negroes, but the direct returns were, in the case of the pipe company not to be figured on, but Mr. Elliott said that he anticipates better returns than ever before.

J. L. Yancey, president, presided, receiving the attention of a well attended meeting. Sam C. Starke, executive secretary, read minutes of the previous meeting and presented communications received since last week, including acknowledgment of receipt of resolutions as to tax reductions on property proposed by Congress, letters having been received from the secretary of the ways and means committee and from Congressman Huddleston.

A. B. Tanner made an interesting report as member of the committee appointed to attend the conference called by the allied trades of the city on proposed issuance of school bonds. He told of the results of the meeting and said that it would be necessary for all civic bodies to have representatives at each and every meeting held on the subject for the influence that would be necessary. The executive secretary will attend meetings at which the bond issue will be considered in the future.

C. D. Barr, who is doing much of the welfare and labor work with the American Cast Iron Pipe Company, in his talk told of results noticeable in the building of better houses for negroes. He told of the construction of some 52 houses for negroes, all equipped with sanitary arrangements, walls papered and otherwise made comfortable. A study of the quality of labor brought

about good showing. Of course, the charge made for the use of these houses is less than a realtor could make, there being no returns, if the investment is considered.

The speaker punctuated his talk with a number of stories which were appropriate and humorous. He said that the bath tubs in the houses for the negroes were first used for washing of clothing but training was given and it is now different. He told of the efforts made to give the negroes comfortable houses and as a result there is an effort to get these houses. At one time, applications were received to purchase these houses but the idea of selling was abandoned by the company. The statement of Mr. Barr included information that of the labor employed at the pipe plant at Acipco, 335 men worked every day the works were in operation last year and the labor turn over was only 4.4 per cent. Results from better houses for negroes were to be seen in better labor. As a matter of income to property owner, the speaker said that he could not say definitely.

E. M. Elliott, who owns a big farm in the southwestern part of the state, said that the problem of better houses for negroes on the farm is serious. He told of the construction of a number of houses for negroes in North Birmingham since his coming here and having but little trouble in renting them. These houses have wall paper, sinks in the kitchen and water and light. He expects to have the houses stand up for a long time and to be rented steadily. He feels confident he stated that the better class of houses will attract attention and patronage and there will be results. He said that the holding of negro labor is important and he looks to better houses to accomplish it.

## THE REPORTER TO INAUGURATE A SOCIAL SERVICE DEPARTMENT

Beginning with our next week's issue, we will start a Social Service Department under the direction of a specially prepared man whose study and discoveries in this field of work are altogether inviting, helpful and will afford general instruction and aid to the interests of our community and state.

In Alabama the races are blessed in that they have unlimited industrial resources and these fields of endeavor are increasing rapidly. A scientific and practical expression of what is going on in Alabama is necessary and will inspire greater interest in our state, in our citizens and will establish a more constructive and sympathetic relation between the races. Exposures of the weaknesses are heralded by the agitator and radical kind, while the virtues and wonderful possibilities are overlooked.

In this social service survey and general utterance the effort will be to strengthen where weak and make stronger at strong points. It will be done by the social service workers coming into personal contact with conditions, men and institutions. It won't be reached otherwise. We can inflame by long essays of radical and impractical theories.

The Birmingham Reporter, a forum for the Negro people of this community and State, desires that the people will make the best of their opportunities wherever they are and use to good end every advantage offered and remain in such relation to the thing they do and those immediately concerned that they may combat manfully and successfully any evil that may arise.

The Negro race in America is just now getting on its feet and prepared to reason out its way and direct its movements. It has accomplished many

things and its marvelous growth makes it a study of civilized nations. In making our discoveries and counting the successes made in a period of fifty years, it must be remembered that sympathy and encouragement have been constantly given in all sections of the country and there is now a more liberal spirit to aid and support progressive, manly and constructive members of the race. There is a weakness that must be overcome and that weakness is ignorance—ignorance on the part of the black man and ignorance on the part of the white man, and this ignorance may not be confined to one's knowledge of letters, figures, science or literature. A man might be minus of much of that and be very intelligent on the thing he does, the rights of others, the duty of man to man. Stations and positions in life are always to be respected. The humble must have its form of encouragement, caretaking and inspirational efforts to inspire that life to nobler deeds.

A social service worker dealing in a practical way with our people and institutions will mean much in many ways. And we are fully of the opinion that if the great mass of our community and state would realize fully the opportunities here offered there would be a greater union of purpose, more state and race progress. All institutions would be more profitable and individual success more apparent.

Dr. S. R. W. Smith will have charge of the Social Service Department of this publication and will furnish a special letter on his discoveries each week. The expression will most likely carry the general thought: "The Evolution of the New Industrial Community." Birmingham is in need of just such a movement. We hope, as of always, to have the cooperation of the public generally and leaders of institutions in particular. The purpose of this movement is to find ourselves, to encourage those men and institutions who are concerned in the humblest members of our group, helping our people to recognize their opportunities and to make known to authority such things as may not be known to them that would be of mutual benefit. We know the effort is necessary and have made the start believing that fundamental results will follow and we will expand our force as rapidly as our ability will allow.

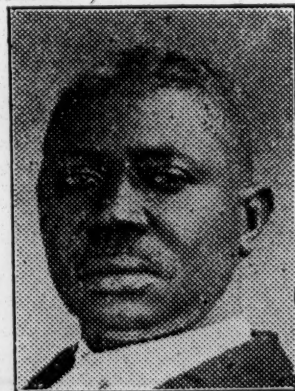
# THE EVOLUTION OF THE MODERN INDUSTRIAL COMMUNITY AS AN ELEMENT IN SOLUTION OF THE RACE PROBLEM

*Birmingham Reporter*  
THE STOCKHAM PIPE AND FITTINGS COMPANY STUDIED.

4-19-24  
By S. R. W. Smith.

The Foreword.  
*Birmingham Reporter*

The population, and more especially the colored part of the population, do not know some of the fundamental facts about the great indus-





trial communities in Birmingham in particular. S. R. W. Smith. and in Jefferson County in general. Small wonder that Birmingham bears the name of Magic City. And there is magic in the management of her mammoth business and industrial concerns, though not a magic to satisfy the curiosity of the curious throng, like that of Keller the Great, the peerless magician—not a grafting of the spirit and genius of the black arts in industry. No, Keller's magic is base compared to this. This nobler magic constitutes the spirit of industrial Birmingham. It is this that has lured men from all sections of the whole world to Birmingham and so made this city the most cosmopolitan city of the South, it is this that elicits the necessary labor from the thews and sinews of the brawny arms of her toiling thousands to keep her mines, her foundries, her machine shops going, in the main, at full blast. There are some things about the inside workings of these plants that lie at the foundation of Birmingham's phenomenal industrial growth and commercial development—that have enabled her to pile up her fabulous wealth—that have held her business and industrial life in more or less stable equilibrium in financial stringencies in the past and that shall guarantee for all time a healthy and irresistible expansion of her many venturesome enterprises. There is a wonderful degree of fair play and strict business righteousness of these great industrial organizations.

#### The Writer's Motion Stated.

It occurred to me that it would be helpful to make a study of the industrial centers of the South in general and of Birmingham and Jefferson county in particular, with a view to giving to the public, and especially to the Negro, the advantage of the information gathered and the conclusions reached as a result of first-hand information and impartial observations. What with the wide-spread Muscle Shoals propaganda and the possible slough that might occur when this government property is finally disposed of, however that may be, I thought well to remind the working thousands of my people not to unwittingly enlist on the "Sucker Roll." And this same caution I would urge with regard to a blind exodus out of the South into the North, East and West. The good of my people, the good of the South the place of my birth—the good of Birmingham and adjacent industrial localities, and the good of the south's industrial heroes

that have led the forlorn hope on the industrial field against sectional odds and business hazard is the motivating thought in my mind in attempting this exhaustive study and this series of articles.

#### Stockham Pipe & Fittings Company's Official Interviewed.

It was my good fortune and valued privilege to meet Mr. E. M. Niblett, supervisor of employees of this great plant, who kindly consented to talk freely and frankly to me for a few minutes about what the management had done and was attempting to do in this their industrial system. He also gave me a pass that I might go through the entire plant and furnished me a guide to give me such information as would be helpful to me in preparing these articles of which I plan writing at least two.

#### Some Things I Learned From the Interview.

(a) More than a thousand, 1,400 to be more exact, men do the work of this fittings shop. Both white and black workers are employed. The Negroes outnumber the whites, the proportion being about 5 to 1. (b) There are upward of 400 black molders in this plant. (c) The machines that require a great degree of skill which are not operated in most plants by

Negroes are run by them in the Stockham shop. (d) The bath house and cafeteria and a small collection of houses sold at cost to the workers constitute the extent of the welfare effort here, as expressed in housings. (e) The medical and dental service is paid for through a deduction of 25c a week through the office. (f) There is a persistent thrift program prosecuted, the men being urged to save and the Y. M. C. A. serving to help regulate and extend the savings of the men. (g) Many, very many, of the workers, are 100 per cent dependable. (h) There is a cooper shop where every one from foreman down is colored. These things are merely mentioned in this contribution; they will be enlarged upon as we proceed with the more detailed study.

#### The Bird's-Eye View.

The general impression I got from this little contact with the plant is that it is doing a great deal in the Birmingham industrial mart and in the world's pipe fittings market. The men have a gilt-edge opportunity to prove their ability to do many things which they do not generally get a chance to do. The colored man is living up to this rare opportunity in a wonderful way and giving satisfaction to his employees who are entrusting

to him the doing of this class of work. The company has no fears of an exodus to the North, East or West, no dread of any withdrawal of the workers to the Tennessee Valley or anywhere else. They believe that the sane Negro, in common with sane humanity everywhere, knows a good thing when he sees it; they strive to make men of the race feel that they can have as good a chance as they deserve, and their desert is in direct ratio to their industrial dependability.

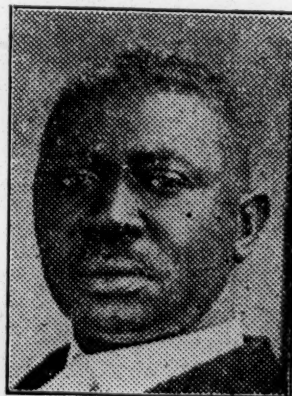
One big item to note here is that the management is purely southern and shows that fine sense of fair play that is so often denied by those who do not really know. Victor Hugo was called by an eminent biographer, "The Heart of France for a Hundred Years." To this high class of southern business men and this courageous army of the south's industrial magnates a like appellation might well be given. **THEY ARE THE SOUL OF THE SOUTH'S INDUSTRIAL SYSTEMS, AND HAVE BEEN FROM TIME IMMEMORIAL.**

## THE EVOLUTION OF THE MODERN INDUSTRIAL COMMUNITY AS AN ELEMENT IN SOLUTION OF THE RACE PROBLEM

The Ideals of The American Cast Iron Pipe Company.

No one would come to Acipco to find a Utopia. Sir Thomas Moore's dream of perfection on his imaginary isle has not been realized yet. The company count not themselves to have apprehended. But they have certain high standards which they hold out and toward which they cause every endeavor to converge.

The Acipco Aim As Revealed By The Y. M. C. A. Secretaries to Employees. The point of contact of the Acipco Corporation with its men is the Service To Employer and Stockholder.



S. R. W. Smith.

ice Department. But the Service Department does a wide diversity of service. It is the beneficent octopus created to grasp in its tentacles the complicated service situation. That particular finger of this department which presents and explains the through-sided aim of the company is the Y. M. C. A. working through the several secretaries. The service to the public service to the employees and to the stockholders indicates the through grand divisions of the service.

4-5-24  
It is the object of the American Cast Iron Pipe Company to furnish the public an honest and meritorious product. This summarizing statement would admit, big and large, of infinite analysis. It would show that every worker must do his work honestly and meritoriously. The mud-makers, the core-makers, the cleaning shed men, the gas producers, the crane runners, the cupola manipulators, machinists, machinist helpers, the moulders, the chippers, the iron yard men, the foremen, in fact the men in every department of the work

of the shop must place upon their work that honesty and true merit which is within themselves. Now the big majority of the workers here are Colored men, so the American Cast Iron Pipe Company depends very largely upon the honesty and the merit of the Colored employees. Judging from the general ascendancy of the products of the company in the cast iron pipe market of America and of the world, from the skill to which these workers attain in the bee hive business of pipe making, from the long tenure of service of so many of the men, from the number of every-in-the-year workers; (I talked with several Colored men who boast of not having lost a shift in 4, 5, 7, even 9 years), and from the many great and good things the company has done and are doing to maintain an army of satisfied workers. I say, judging from these considerations, the Negro laborers must be a dependable source of honor and merit both in themselves and in the article in the production of which they play so large and so essential a part.

The life of Christ may be summed upon the five fingers of the hand: "He went about doing good." The life of the American Cast Iron Pipe Company manifests its Christ-likeness in the manner in which it aims to serve its men, whether those men be workers or stockholders. The stock promise of the company is "good to its men as long as their relations exist." The management purports to make for the stockholders a reasonable and fair return on the money invested by them. Take the lowest paid workman and the company deals with him on the principle that every man is entitled to a living wage.

A survey, more or less comprehensive, was made at one time to ascertain whether the men's wages were securing for them a good living basis and the wage scale was so adjusted as place this matter above per adventure. This is the reason why it is so largely true that "Once an Acipco Employee Means Always an Acipco Employee." They have gone from Acipco to all points of the North and East and West and have returned to Acipco. The wherefore for this fact lies in the cardinal truth that the company has devised a business boomerang of a beneficent sort, which, when some faddist spell of exodus or some not very well founded "go fever" urges the worker away usually brings him back to the same old spot. In talking with these returned men I note that their general statement is in effect: "I am back to stay" or "I can do better right here at Acipco than any where I have tried."

ne of the Springs in the Device. The generous profit sharing opportunities; the Acipco Mutual Benefit Association; the medical service; the pension fund; the employees' representation; Y. M. C. A. advantages; Christian ideals and association; the complete life sphere of human activity, are the springs in this wonderful device. What with such a device of such push and pull, can anyone wonder why the growth and extended circle of service, or why the perpetual identity of the workmen with the company? This fact alone justifies the American Cast Iron Pipe Company for the lavish expenditure of money for the happiness of every unit of the Acipco Community, and constitutes the experiment which the yare making with surprisingly admirable and satisfactory results.



Labor—1924

Welfare Work for Housing Conditions.

## Negro Migration, Health and Civic Improvement

SOME uncertainty seems to prevail among some people as to whether Negroes of the United States are increasing rapidly or dying out. The next ten years will settle this question for certainty. Negro migration will settle this. The continued migration of Negroes to the northern and northwestern cities of the United States is removing many of the inequalities and privations which Negroes in the South have been subjected to since the Emancipation Proclamation.

Negroes in the large Northern and Western cities are now enjoying the benefits of municipal health programs of sanitation and hygiene. They are receiving health education from antituberculosis associations, health information bureaus, community health programs of Boy and Girl Scouts, prenatal clinics, infant care and feeding clinics, nutrition classes in day school and community centers, dental clinics for mouth hygiene and teeth defects. They are also enjoying increased facilities for public education and a modernized Negro press. All these are helping considerably in changing the migrated Negro's physical status. There are also philanthropic social organizations, such as the Urban League, Young Men's and Young Women's Christian Association, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and Universal Negro Improvement Association, which are doing specific work in the readjustment and improvement of Negroes in the large Northern and Western cities. The effect of such widespread benefits and advantages upon the health of the Negro is beginning to show itself. The Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, with over one million policyholders, has recently given public expression to the lessened Negro mortality during the last ten years. The Aetna Life Insurance Company is now giving large income policies to Negroes which in past years it refused to give.

Five thousand or more Negroes in Harlem are each carrying from \$10,000 to \$25,000 of endowment and income life insurance policies. Many thousands are insured for \$3,000 to \$5,000. Thus the improved physical status of the Negroes is bringing a higher economic and financial standing. Equal opportunities for development the Negroes are undoubtedly getting in the Northern cities; these are manifesting themselves in higher physical, mental, educational, vocational and social characteristics. Much good thus far has been accomplished. Many Negroes, however, still need to be guided and in-

telligently helped to adjust themselves to Northern city life. If this is done, the next ten years will conclusively prove that Negroes of the United States have rapidly increased numerically and materially.

N Y C WORLD

SEPTEMBER 28, 1924

## NEGRO MIGRATION PROBLEMS BEING STUDIED BY CITIES

Move to Regulate Exodus From  
South to Meet Labor Demand  
in North Being Discussed.

DETROIT LEAGUE'S 'DON'TS'  
AIM TO AID STRANGER.

Advise Newcomer to Abstain  
From Anything Likely to At-  
tract Undue Attention.

By Lester A. Walton

For months past there has been much discussion as to the primary cause of Negro migration, but to-day interest is not centred so much on the cause as it is on the effect of thousand of Southern field hands permanently settling in Northern industrial centres. There has been a shifting of scenes from the South to the North.

The first act of this historic leave-taking was staged in Dixie, where

empty cabins symbolized the gravity of the situation. The second act is laid in the North, where overcrowded dwellings unmistakably bespeak the presence of the Negro migrant in urban communities and the birth of new problems resultant therefrom.

While looking with favor on migration, representative Negroes of both sections are now demanding that immediate steps be taken to systematize the flow of man power from the South to the North so that in the future it may be regulated more in accordance with the law of supply and demand rather than in haphazard fashion.

At the recent session of the National Negro Business League in Chicago, the longest and most interesting discussion engaged in by the Committee on Resolutions was "Negro Migration." It was precipitated by Dr. John Hope, President of Morehouse College, Atlanta, who acted as Chairman. The other members of the committee were from different sections of the country.

### Urge Advice to Migrants.

There was a unanimity of opinion that the wholesale exodus of Negroes from the South had proved beneficial to the race as a whole, but every one expressed the hope that Negroes themselves would adopt a definite program to deal with the subject in the future. It was suggested that colored newspapers and ministers in the North concern themselves in a movement to advise prospective migrants when opportune to abandon the South and to give out information relative to industrial centres where employment is readily obtainable and housing conditions have not assumed alarming proportions.

Growing out of the lengthy consideration of migration, the committee, in its resolutions, incorporated the following:

"Negro migration, even though undirected, has greatly ameliorated conditions in the North and South; to maintain the present advantage and promote it, a more systematic direction is needed in the matter of helping our people to keep their jobs in the North and get additional jobs without lowering wages or reducing the standard of living; and on the other hand, as far as possible assist the Negroes in the South so they may not make needless sacrifice of property they have made in the last fifty years."

The statement was made by Dr. Hope that many Negroes in their headlong rush to the North had given up valuable farmlands, and in many instances these properties had been partially paid for.

Assimilation of thousands of rural workers whose previous environment

and methods of living, not their color, make them at the beginning obviously unfamiliar with city ways and customs, is one phase of Negro migration which oftentimes agitates those of the race either born in large Northern cities or who boast of long residence. By their increasing race prejudice superinduced by the presence of both white and colored people from the South, is viewed with some apprehension.

The Detroit Urban League, to keep down race prejudice, has in circulation among migrants a pamphlet containing the following statement on the first page: "We want to make Detroit a place free from prejudice, race friction and discrimination. If you will observe the following suggestions you can greatly help in bringing this about."

### "Helpful Hints."

Under the heading of "Helpful Hints," the suggestions enumerated are:

"Don't carry on loud conversations or use vulgar or obscene language on the street cars, streets or in public places. Remember that this hurts us as a race.

"Don't go about the streets or on the street car in bungalow aprons, boudoir caps and house slippers. Wear regular street clothes when you go into the streets.

"Try to dress neatly at all times, but don't be a dude or wear flashy clothes. They are as undesirable and as harmful as unclean clothes.

"Don't think you can hold your job unless you are on time, industrious, efficient and sober.

"Don't sit in front of your house or around Belle Isle or public places with your shoes off. Don't wear overalls on Sunday.

"Don't stay away from work every time some one gives a picnic or boat ride. Stay on your job. Others do.

"Don't spend all your money for pleasure. Save some of it for extra clothing and fuel for the winter and to take care of your family and yourself when sickness comes.

"Don't forget that cleanliness and fresh air are necessary to good health. Keep your windows open.

"Don't do your children's hair up into alleys, canals and knots if you don't want other children to make fun of them. Keep them clean.

"Don't keep your children out of school. See that they attend the nearest school to you.

"Don't fail to start a savings account with some good bank or building loan association.

"Don't throw refuse and tin cans into your back or front yards. Keep your surroundings as clean as possible. This makes for good health.

"Don't fool with patent medicines in case of sickness. Send for a good doctor. In case you have no money go to some of the Board of Health

clinics.

"Don't be rude and ugly to people on the streets. Be courteous and polite and thereby keep out of trouble.

"Don't fail to meet the teachers of your children. Keep in touch with them. Every hateful thing that your child says about the teacher is not true.

"Don't fail to become connected with some church as soon as you get in the city.

"Don't make lots of unnecessary noise going to and from baseball games. If the parks are taken away from you it will be partly your fault."

### Study Assimilation Methods.

In Chicago, St. Louis and Cleveland leading Negroes and organizations have adopted similar methods of assimilating newcomers with the least possible friction and embarrassment. While the hints and importunities issued by the Detroit Urban League should also prove helpful to white migrants from agricultural regions and elsewhere it is pointed out that they are less conspicuous in public and any misconduct on their part would not provoke widespread criticism against all white people.

However, as all Negroes in a community usually are affected either directly or indirectly when one or several of their number excite unpopular comment, the thinking, cultured and self-respecting class of the race find it incumbent on themselves to take an active interest in the welfare of the migrant both out of humanitarian considerations and as a matter of self-protection.



Labor - 1924.

Welfare Work for Housing Conditions.

Illinois.

*Hunter Elias*  
(14) MAY - 9 '24 - Post.

### Gouging Negro Tenants

Since the war, the housing shortage in Northern cities has offered opportunity to unscrupulous landlords to gouge unmercifully tenants in general.

In the case of negro tenants, in particular, the landlord has had almost no restraint, and many of them have not hesitated to press their advantage. Quarters within reach of the pocket book of the negroes are limited. Then there is that other consideration that in many residential sections the negroes are not wanted. This has served to contract still further the quarters available for the negroes.

The result in Chicago, one of the cities to which the Southern negroes have flocked in large numbers, is something like this: Flats that formerly rented to whites for \$20 and \$25 per month, are priced at \$45 to \$60 per month to negroes. Other flats slightly better have jumped to \$100 per month, and one case is on record of where a raise was made from \$90 to \$175 per month.

This works a great hardship on the negroes. Furthermore, it is a detriment to their physical and social wellbeing, because it encourages overcrowding in their homes. It is creating another social problem in Chicago, but little is being done to solve it. Outside the ranks of the employers who want the negroes as laborers, the negroes are not wanted in Chicago, and naturally there is no great enthusiasm to make things pleasant or even comfortable for them.

In the meantime, great numbers of the negroes who have drifted North are discovering by comparison of conditions there and in the South that life in the South is much more attractive. No wonder there are so many of them turning their footsteps homeward.



Labor - 1924.

Maryland.

Welfare Work for Housing Conditions.

## Labor Department Reports on Negro Housing Situation in Baltimore, Md.

According to occupant-owners and tenants of houses belonging to Negroes, residential properties in Baltimore ranging in estimated values of from \$1,600 to \$10,000, are typical examples of the major housing facilities available to Baltimore's 108,322 Negroes, who are being slowly augmented by migrants from the South. The houses, as to which data was obtained, were selected in a non-discriminatory manner as to location and from centers of the city in which there reside colored people representative of Baltimore's entire Negro population.

In making this investigation the Department realized, of course, that small streets and alleys are still, unfortunately, the abiding places of large numbers of colored people of limited means, who are crowded into small dwellings. Yet, with the exception of these small and limited localities, the problem of housing congestion in Baltimore is not a serious one.

Houses occupied by Negroes and located on such typical Baltimore streets as McCulloh, East 23d, West Lanvale, Ashland avenue, North Carrollton, North Carey, Jefferson, Myrtle avenue, Division, Pennsylvania avenue, Leadenhall, George, Argyle avenue, Mosher, East Fayette and North Caroline, were described by their occupants, whose conclusions are summarized as follows:

In the ratio of 9 to 11, the occupants of these properties had purchased the same, and, where necessary, improved the houses by the installation of modern heating appliances, electric lights, hardwood floors, etc. Actual rentals of these properties and estimated rentals submitted by owners ranged from \$16 to \$80 per month. Intermediate rentals varied according to the size, space and condition of the houses. A surprising condition brought to light by the investigation was the fact that, in the ratio of 8 to 12, householders and their immediate families were the sole occupants of the home, and did not sublet any portion of the rented or owned property. In other cases, the number of rooms sublet ranged from one to three, and in one case four rooms of a six-room house renting for \$40 per month were sublet to lodgers. The houses, the majority of which

were two or three-story brick dwellings, contained from six to sixteen rooms, and, with but four exceptions, were well brightened by daylight.

In a few cases the occupants described the plumbing as being "poor" and "fair," but in the majority of cases it was said to be "good." Toilet facilities and sewerage fell slightly below the very favorable testimony as to lighting and plumbing, but the general description was "good," and, in several cases, "splendid."

In comparing the construction and rental prices of the houses studied with similarly located houses occupied by white householders, two informants stated that Negro tenants, as a rule, paid a higher price for poorer shelter and facilities than did white tenants. The data compiled sustains the slightly higher price; but, as to general construction and specifications, it is indicated that there is virtually no difference between the facilities available to the two classes of occupants.

In location, it was observed that highly desirable residential sections and blocks recently opened to Negro residents commanded higher sale and rental prices than sections which have long been open to Negro householders, a situation which is comparable to that of other large cities in which the Negro population is rapidly increasing.

In its entirety, the housing situation among the colored people of Baltimore, Md., seems to bear no symptoms of unusual needs, or indicate any crisis of shortage such as has appeared in several other cities. A normal housing adjustment, in keeping with the needs of the city's Negro populace, is apparently ever applicable to each individual case as the necessity arises.



Labor - 1924.

Missouri.

Welfare Work for Housing Conditions.

## THE MO. NEGRO WELFARE PROBLEMS ARE DISCUSSED

By Robt. S. Cobb

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., June 23.

When Missouri's Fiftieth General Assembly enacted Negro Welfare legislation it placed our state in the front rank of states seeking to improve the economic status of its Negro citizens; since 1918 Michigan, West Virginia, Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia and Pennsylvania have established commissions for the purpose of working out problems affecting the welfare of Negroes of their respective states. Many of these boards are composed of citizens of both races. Pennsylvania established her commission during this month (June) 1924.

In a recent letter to the secretary of the Missouri Commission, President Coolidge stated as follows:—"I feel that Missouri is doing the kind of work most calculated to improve the economic and social position of her colored citizens."

### Program of Expansion Needed

Hundreds of Negroes have come into S. E. Missouri, where they have made, according to recent reports, splendid hands in the cotton fields; what they need most is a program of better health, economy, good citizenship and education for their children; they receive higher wages than they received in the states from which they have recently come, which will cause many to come during the summer months.

There is a broad field for usefulness but paid workers are few. The Missouri Negro Industrial Commission with adequate appropriation could initiate a program in this section of Missouri which would be beneficial not only to this particular section but to the whole state as well.

Through branch offices in the various sections of the state, migrants could be speedily gotten to the farmers at a time most needed.



Labor - 1924

New Jersey.

Welfare Work for Housing Conditions.

TRENTON TIMES  
JULY 23, 1924

# INFLUX OF NEGROES GIVES CITY SERIOUS PROBLEMS IN HEALTH AND FINANCE

Mayor Donnelly, who, in conference with the poor department staff, will formulate plans to relieve the situation.

Due to the fact that most of the Negroes who have come to Trenton from the South in the past 12 months are practically paupers and unable to adequately provide for themselves, a serious problem is confronting the Poor Department and it is probable that the situation will become so acute as to require the combined efforts of all city relief agencies, and perhaps of the City Commission. Funds appropriated by the Commission for the relief of the poor for this year were not designed to meet the unexpected demands of the increased Negro population, and drastic action will have to be taken to conserve enough of the funds to meet the other legitimate requests for assistance.

William S. D'Arcy, assistant to William H. Nutt, Superintendent of Outdoor Relief, in discussing the situation today, said that at least two-thirds of the calls for aid made upon the Poor Department in the past few months have come from southern Negroes recently arrived in this city. They land here with little or no funds, according to Mr. D'Arcy, and at the end of two weeks, sometimes sooner, they are at the Poor Department office, asking help. The fare of the Negroes is paid from the South, but who pays it is still a mystery, Mr. D'Arcy said, for the men and women themselves do not have the funds to do it.

Almost as soon as the southern Negroes arrive here, Mr. D'Arcy said, they apply for orders for food and also ask to have their rents paid. In many instances, the requests have to be refused entirely, Mr. D'Arcy said, and he added that the department was compelled to deny them as the petitioners are not really residents of the city, and if all of their demands were complied with there would be little left for other legitimate claims of people who have lived in the city for many years.

Using Homes in Shifts.

Practically all of the families moving up from the South are very large, those consisting of father, mother and nine or ten children being not at all unusual, Mr. D'Arcy explained. Upon their arrival here, they seek out some place to live and in many sections of the city there are as many as six and eight families living in one house. City physicians, Mr. D'Arcy said, report to the Poor Department that in some of the houses, where the men of the families are employed in local manufacturing plants in shifts, they use the homes and beds in the same way, with no regard whatever for sanitary conditions. A surprisingly large percentage of the newly arrived Negro population is also infected with smallpox, and their congested living conditions has resulted in the spread of the disease throughout the city, according to the Health Department and the city physicians.

Many of the men find employment here, Mr. D'Arcy explained, but he said the trouble came because they seem to be utterly unable to spend their money to advantage. If the man is earning \$30 a week, Mr. D'Arcy said, he is spending \$35, so that those who have been here for several months or a year are just as much a problem as those who have just landed. In some cases, where the father has died just after coming to Trenton, or where other conditions justify it, the families are sent back to the south, but in numerous instances the cost is very great. In a few instances private individuals have aided the city poor department in providing transportation back to the southern states. The families are coming from extremely distant points, often from the lower end of Florida, Georgia and Alabama. Trenton is getting a generous supply of the immigrants, Mr. D'Arcy said, and when asked why they come here he told of placards that are being shown in the waiting rooms of southern railroads, in which it is alleged Trenton is spoken of as the "Negro Man's Paradise," and in which the opportunities for employment in the manufacturing plants are mentioned and the high wages are cited. On some of the placards there is a picture of the new Negro school, Mr. D'Arcy said he had been informed. There is no difficulty for most of the men to get employment here, Mr. D'Arcy added, and he pointed out that in many of the manufacturing plants the Negro workers are in greater proportion than the whites. Dr. D'Arcy said today that Mr. Nutt will report this situation to



Labor — 1924.

Welfare Work for Housing Conditions.

# THE ARMSTRONG ASSO. TAKES ON NEW LIFE UNDER FORRESTER WASHINGTON

New Branch of Its Work Effectively Reaches the  
Southern Migrant in His Home, Delves Into  
His Problems and Solves Them — Per-  
sonal Visits Show that "Some-  
body Cares"

Evidences of the beneficial effects of a new branch of the work carried on by the Armstrong Association was evidenced by the attendance at a meeting arranged by the Neighborhood Workers of the Armstrong Association which was held at the College Settlement 433 Christian street recently.

For the past week Mrs. Emma V. Thompson, in charge of the new Neighborhood and assimilation work of the Armstrong Association, and her two assistants, Miss Myrtle Carden and Miss Mary Esther White, visited more than a hundred homes in the section bounded by Catherine and Reed streets, and from Seventh street to the river-front. These visits were for the purpose of showing new-comers to Philadelphia that "Somebody Cares" about the homes in which they live, the schools which their children attend, the churches to which they go, and all the social and moral influences which surround them. The object of this work of the Armstrong Association is to form clubs of this kind, especially of new-comers, that will enable them to come in touch with the very best type of the influences mentioned above. The formation of permanent clubs meeting in neighborhoods seems to be the most effective way to accomplish the purpose.

The evening of April 15th was set apart as the "get acquainted" evening and fully seventy-five persons were present, the great majority of whom have been in Philadelphia less than two years. 5-17-24

The spirit of the meeting was in keeping with the spirit of the visits to the homes. There was no attempt made to lecture these people on their real or imaginary short comings. There was the hearty welcome at the door by Mrs. Thompson and her assistants; a word of greeting by the settlement workers and in a little while everybody was at ease. Those who were known to each other began to get acquainted with others and for a few minutes the meeting took on the air of informality so much enjoyed by those of us who dislike the idea of being patronized.

Mrs. Thompson, who presided, suggested that perhaps a few words from some of those who are interested in helping us to help ourselves would be timely. This, however, was after Mr. Adolphus Lewis had led the group in community singing — and how they sang. A woman sitting somewhat back holding a year-old girl in her arms, began to sing and the little girl joined in. The writer also joined in. Pretty soon the mother began to wipe her eyes. At first I thought my singing had somehow jarred the sensitive soul, so I asked her; she said: "I have been in Philadelphia for two years and this is the first happy hour I've had since I've been here." Then I wiped my eyes.

With Mr. Lewis, we sang several more songs. Mr. Lewis was assisted by Miss Myrtle Carden at the piano and Mr. Bethea, who gave a very well rendered solo. Mrs. Thompson called on Mr. A. L. Manly who gave a short history of the Armstrong As-

sociation, emphasizing the fact that it is not the purpose of the Association to work for any people but to work with them. That the best help is to help one to help himself.

Mrs. Kemp of the Phipps Institute, offered practical, wholesome suggestions about health. She emphasized among other things the value of cleanliness of home, of children, of ourselves, the fallacy of using quack medicines and the value of health clinics. What Mrs. Kemp said was not only helpful to the friends who had just come from the South but to those of us who had lived in Philadelphia a great many years.

Miss Leona Barber, who was formerly a teacher in Norfolk, Va. High School, spoke of education for adults. This is one of the very important forces in helping people who are unused to Northern city life to properly adjust themselves to the new and evidently strange environment. Her talk was interspersed with experiences which were particularly instructive.

Mr. Forrester B. Washington, the last speaker, referred to the several activities of the Armstrong Association, all of which are intended to give to the community a proper interpretation of the Negro's capacity for constructive service. Mr. Washington particularly emphasized the fact that these neighborhood meetings and the clubs which will be formed have only one purpose; to have the people make the fullest and best use of the agencies and opportunities for self improvement with which they were surrounded.

And the children! When Mrs. Thompson invited the mothers to this meeting, several demurred on the account of having young children who would possibly not enjoy the meeting as might the older ones and who might offer some form of protest. After consultation with Miss Davies, the Headworker of the Settlement, Mrs. Thompson arranged to have the children entertained with a movie show in another part of the building, which left the mothers free to enjoy themselves. And there was no doubt about the enjoyment not only for the visitors but for all of us: there was the joy of meeting so many earnest, hopeful people, who, notwithstanding the discomforts of bad housing, congestion and unsanitary surroundings are determined to prove themselves a real asset to the community. There was the joy of being able to participate in the endeavor to bring this group together in the spirit of neighborliness, and there was joy in the evidence of appreciation expressed by so many when we finally decided to go home.

Miss Davies, the Headworker, expressed her delight at having us with her and had served for us refreshments at the close of the meeting which allowed another opportunity for us to get acquainted, which gives some idea of this one of the Armstrong Association's activities: The working out of a plan to help our newcomer friends adjust themselves to a new environment. The next meeting of this group is to be held at the home of one of the members.

THE MORNING PUBLIC LEDGER  
JUNE 6, 1924

## TO STUDY NEGRO CONDITIONS

Forrester B. Washington, appointed by Governor Pinchot on June 1 to direct a survey of conditions affecting the Negro race in Pennsylvania, will call together representative Negro citizens in each community for advice and aid in the conduct of local investigations, he announced yesterday. Prince L. Edwoods has been appointed Mr. Washington's assistant and field worker. Labor and housing problems especially will be studied, it was said.

## Home For The Southern Migrants

(Special to Norfolk Journal and Guide)  
Philadelphia, Pa., July 21.—On last Monday the ministers of Philadelphia of the African Methodist Episcopal Church met in Mother Bethel Church to perfect their plans for the continuation of the Richard Allen House. This house was started last winter for the purpose of giving shelter to strangers who came in the city from the South and various parts of the country, who had no homes here. While it is operated by the African Methodist Episcopal Church, its doors are open to any stranger coming to the city, these friends are located for them and permanent homes are found. Connected with the Richard Allen House will be an employment and housing service for the aid of new comers. This is one of the few efforts of the churches in the large cities to help handle the question of migration.

LANCASTER PA NEW ERA  
AUGUST 7, 1924

## MAKING SURVEY AMONG NEGROES

Field Worker for State Welfare  
Department Begins Inves-  
tigation Here.

Prince L. Edwoods, of Harrisburg, a field worker for the State Welfare Department, was in Lancaster today making a survey of conditions affecting the negroes of this city. Rev. Mark Thompson, pastor of Ebenezer Baptist church, was appointed chairman of the local committee which is to take charge of the work.

The local committee, which is to consist off from 12 to 15 representative negroes of Lancaster, will investigate health conditions, race relationships, welfare work, housing and industrial conditions, community organization and religious work as well as the recreational work of the local negroes.

After the survey is completed a public meeting will be held when several local and state officials will speak and report on the work. The work is made possible through the efforts of Dr. Ellen C. Porter, at Harrisburg, who persuaded Governor Pinchot to allow the study to be made. It is the aim of Dr. Porter to formulate a program which will assist the negro population in Pennsylvania.

Forrester B. Washington, a graduate of Harvard, Tufts and Columbia, a national figure in negro welfare work, is assisting the state in the survey. Mrs. Maude B. Coleman, of Harrisburg, is also assisting in the work.



Labor - 1924

Tennessee.

# Welfare Work for Housing Conditions. HOUSING OF NEGROES.

## To The Commercial Appeal.

Our editorial concerning the housing of the negro tenant farmer seems to have made a hit. It may judge from the number of times it has been mentioned to me in casual

conversations. Your incidental remark as to better housing for the city negro is well deserving of commendation, and ought to get home to the hearts and consciences of the landlords of this city. The term "negro house" has a specialized meaning in the cities of the south, as a sort of shelter for human beings which no white family will inhabit—something a little higher in the scale of comfort and salubrity than the cow shed or chicken coop.

Many one has a doubt of the exactness of this description, he has only to take a stroll through the nearest negro slum. As a rule, they are limited in extent, and surrounded by a sort of barrier reef of humble cottages, inhabited by white mechanics and store clerks, beyond

which spread the homes of the people with real money in their jeans.

No, I don't blame the owners of these shacks for getting all they can, and I don't blame them for not putting up better shacks. This is a world of conflict, and you have to choose between eating and being eaten. If you give the tenant more than the fellow next door gives him, he sets you down as a gentleman of soft brain and soft heart.

But is there any land on which a benevolent millionaire could do more good, right off the reel, than by building 100 model cottages, which could be rented at the rates now paid by the negro laborer in this city, and at the same time pay 6 per cent on the investment in addition to taxes, insurance and depreciation?

I am not an architect, but I have occasion, in the course of my work as a lawyer, to acquire some little knowledge of the cost of housing people. Before the war, the best per flat, in the city of Chicago, of six-room flats, in six flat buildings, on 20-foot lots, ran from \$1,000 to \$2,000. These were steam heated, electric lighted, with gas stoves, and the cost of the heating fell upon the landlord. Of course no one would think of housing a negro laborer in a steam heated flat, but when you scale the thing down to a four-room cottage, frame or brick, a good sized living room at the front (the "master bed chamber" at night), with a couple of small bedrooms flanked by a hall leading to the kitchen and dining room combined, I have no doubt that a decent human habitation could be contrived at a cost not exceeding \$1,000, and I think a good deal less. Such a home could be rented at not more than is now charged for two or three room shacks, really unfit for human habitation.

A few months ago the Scientific American devoted considerable space to the plans prepared by a very prominent New York architect for the housing of persons of moderate means. I doubt if those plans would be worth while in this latitude, because they contemplated concrete walls, while lumber is very cheap here, but they are worth considering. His concrete walls reached only 6 feet from the floor, head room, for a one-story dwelling, being secured from the slant of the roof. A basement for the heating plant was dispensed with, by simply putting the boiler in a little shack in the rear. Partitions were made by hanging a strip of burlap from ceiling to floor, and two plasterers, facing each other on opposite sides of the burlap, made a good concrete partition, an inch or two thick, at a cost much

less than that of two lath and plaster ceilings.

These are but samples of what this man, reported to be one of the leading architects of New York proposes. Have we no benevolent millionaire in the city who is willing to take the chance of not making quite six per cent on his investment at the start in furnishing decent accommodations to our laborers?

L. E. X.

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